

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE MINISTERIAL IRISH CHURCH MEASURE.

OUR expectations are fully realised. Our desires are substantially met. The Ecclesiastical policy we have so long recommended for Ireland, is to be found embodied, as to all its leading principles, and many of its minor details, in the measure which Mr. Gladstone laid before Parliament on Monday evening. We have never for a moment wavered in our confidence in Mr. Gladstone's perfect integrity of purpose in regard to the abolition of the Irish Church Establishment. No misgiving ever visited our minds lest, in the end, he should swerve from the announcement which he made last Session, or disappoint the hopes he raised during his canvass of the South-west division of Lancashire last autumn. And now that the whole scheme of disestablishment and disendowment is before the country, and that the wonderfully lucid statement of the Premier has explained every part of that scheme, it gives us a pleasure we are quite unable adequately to express, to hail it with intense gratitude and unmingled joy as worthy of the man, of the country, of the occasion, and of the age. It would be somewhat presumptuous to affirm of it that it could not be better—but, taking it for all and all, it would be difficult, we think, to improve it, either in completeness, in symmetry, in the adaptation of means to ends, or, above all, in the justice, the considerate kindness, the consummate skill which characterise its provisions.

We write now our first impressions. We reserve critical comment for future occasions. Our present duty and intention restrict us almost exclusively to a brief summary of what the Bill contains—and we cannot more appropriately commence the task we have undertaken than by citing a portion of the preamble of the measure—"Whereas it is expedient that the union created by Act of Parliament between the Churches of England and Ireland, as by law established, should be dissolved, and that the Church of Ireland, as so separated, should cease to be established by law, and that after satisfying, so far as possible, all just and equitable claims, the property of the said Church of Ireland should be held, and applied for the advantage of the Irish people, but not for the maintenance of any church, or clergy, or other ministry, nor

for the teaching of religion; and it is further expedient that the said property, or the proceeds thereof, should be appropriated mainly to the relief of unavoidable calamity and suffering, yet so as not to cancel or impair the obligations now attached to property under the Act for the relief of the poor," &c.; &c. In these few words we discern the general scope of the measure—disestablishment, disendowment, satisfaction of just and equitable claims, and appropriation of the surplus funds—all, in fact, that the most eager advocate of the separation of Church and State could well have desired to see included in it. In placing before our readers an analysis of its provisions, we are happily saved a vast amount of labour by the masterly order in which Mr. Gladstone grouped them in his speech. That order we shall adhere to in the main. We shall consider the Bill first, in its

IMMEDIATE ARRANGEMENTS.

Immediately on the Bill becoming law by the assent of the three Estates of the realm, the present Irish Ecclesiastical Commission will wind up its business, and new Commissioners, whose names will be inserted in the Bill, and who will be appointed for ten years' service, will enter upon what may be described as the work of liquidation. The entire property of the Irish Church will forthwith vest in this body, subject to life interests. Technically, though not actually, disendowment will be immediate, and the fee simple of all the temporalities of the Established Church will pass over to the Commission, in trust for the purposes of the Act. We now proceed to mention the

INTERMEDIATE ARRANGEMENTS.

On January 1st, 1871, the Establishment, as an Establishment, will cease to exist. Pending that period, however, it will continue to have a provisional being. Vacancies in the episcopate will be filled up by the Crown, on the prayer of the bishops of the respective provinces, and in conformity with their nomination—and vacant benefices will receive new appointments; but with this proviso applicable to all such exercises of patronage, that the persons appointed either to sees or livings, will acquire thereby no freehold interest, no title to compensation, no right of office extending beyond the intermediate term for which they are appointed. The ecclesiastical body to be presently disestablished will remain in unabridged proportions until the fatal moment overtakes it. This body, it is assumed, will during the interval, reconstitute itself as a Free Church, for which purpose it will be provided with sufficient enabling powers. All disabilities, which in any way fetter the action of the Church with regard to making voluntary compacts and regulations, will be swept away. The religious union between the Churches of Ireland and England will not be severed by the enactment which puts an end to their legal union as an Establishment—but the Irish Free Church will be left quite at liberty to take its own course in this matter. When the bishops, clergy, and laity of the Irish Church have organised for themselves a governing body, the Crown will judge whether it is a fairly representative body—that is, representative alike of the bishops, clergy, and laity—will recognise it as such, and will incorporate it under the provisions of the Act for the purposes named in it. This is all that the Crown proposes to do—it

will act simply as a jury, in deciding whether or not the Governing Body created by the Church is or is not in good faith representative of bishops, ministers, and people. We shall imagine such a body constituted, its trusts agreed upon, its powers of regulation defined, its representative fitness recognised. We may now pass on to

WINDING-UP ARRANGEMENTS.

Well, on the first day of the year 1871, disestablishment will take effect. On that day the Ecclesiastical Courts in Ireland will be abolished, ecclesiastical jurisdiction will cease, ecclesiastical laws will no longer have any binding legal authority; the rights of the bishops to peerage will lapse, and all ecclesiastical corporations which now in their aggregate constitute the framework of the Establishment will be dissolved. But in order to lessen the shock of transition, though the present ecclesiastical laws, as laws of the country, will be abrogated, they will remain as regulations in the voluntary body, until and unless they shall be repealed or altered by the voluntary agency of the Governing Body. Disestablishment being thus complete, the work of liquidating the temporalities would commence. Let us see how it would proceed in reference to the following particulars:—

1. *Incumbents, episcopal and parochial.*—The amount of income, subject to deduction for permanent curates, will be ascertained. It will be made payable for life in each case. It may be commuted on the basis of capitalising it as a life annuity, but only on the application of the incumbent. On his application, the capital he obtains for it may be handed over to the Governing Body of the new Church, subject to the legal trust of discharging the duties for which he now receives the income, so that, between the organs of the State and the individual clergy of the Church, it is hoped that the relation of administrator and recipient will soon come to an end. But the recognition of life interests would, in all other respects than that of performing the duties for which the income was intended to be an equivalent, be unconditional. If the clergyman obtains his remuneration by holding land, either as proprietor or as occupier, by letting it year by year or in short leases, no compulsory change is to be made by the Bill in his position with regard to any part of his freehold, except that of the Tithe Commutation Rent Charge, of which more hereafter.

2. *Permanent Curates.*—The Commissioners will determine who are permanent, and who are only transitory curates, subject, however, to objection on the part of the incumbent. Those of the permanent class are to be entitled to the interest of their curacies for life, and to the commutation of it on the same basis as incumbents, and will be subject to corresponding obligations. For those of the transitory class, a provision is made analogous to the provisions of the Civil Service Superannuation Act, by which gratuities are awarded in consequence of disadvantages sustained.

3. *Private Endowments.*—They must have been derived from private sources, since the date of the Restoration of 1660—but neither churches nor glebe-houses are to be reckoned in this category, as they are separately dealt with. They include glebe-lands, tithes, and

money. Their value is about half a million. They will, when their titles have been proved to the Commissioners, be made over to the Governing Body, together with the reasonable expenses incurred in obtaining evidence in support of their titles.

4. *Churches.*—As they are not marketable property, those of them which the Governing Body will engage to maintain for the purposes of worship, or replace by other churches, will be made over to it. Those not so taken over will come into the possession of the Commissioners, who will dispose of the sites, and of the building materials. Twelve of the churches, including St. Patrick's Cathedral, will be regarded as historical monuments which all parties would wish to preserve, and a moderate sum is to be allowed for maintaining them in good order. Churches not used will be given up to the Board of Works.

5. *Glebe-houses and See-houses.*—Though originally costing, without including the sites, about 1,200,000*l.*, their present value is estimated at only 18,600*l.* per annum. They are saddled with building charges to the amount of 250,000*l.* The building charge will have to be paid over by the new Church, if it desires the glebe-houses, and it will then be allowed to purchase ten acres of glebe-land round each house, at a fair valuation.

6. *Burial-grounds.*—Those adjacent to churches will go with the churches, all existing rights being preserved; others will be handed over to the guardians of the poor.

7. *The Regium Donum and the Maynooth Grant.*—Presbyterian ministers of all shades of belief, at present receiving the *Regium Donum*, will receive compensation on precisely the same principles as the incumbents of the Church. Educational establishments such as Maynooth, and the Theological Colleges at Belfast, will have all the individual interests of those connected with them subjected to valuation, and will then receive sums equivalent to fourteen years' purchase of the capital amount.

8. *Rent-charges.*—The Commissioners will get rid of this form of property as speedily as possible. It will be offered to the landlords at twenty-two and a half years' purchase, not of the nominal gross 100*l.*, but of the 75*l.* a year. If they do not accept that offer, there will be a compulsory alternative. The Commissioners will sell them the rent-charge at a rate to yield them four and a half per cent., and will credit them with a loan to an equal amount, but at three and a half per cent. One per cent. will therefore remain as a sinking fund to repay that loan by instalments. In forty-five years the rent-charge will have been by this means redeemed.

THE SURPLUS AND ITS APPROPRIATION.

On the financial details of the process of disendowment, we need not dwell. The compensatory claims upon the property of the Irish Church are estimated by Mr. Gladstone at 8,500,000*l.*—the surplus remaining in the hands of the Commission when its work is done, at between 7,000,000*l.* or 8,000,000*l.*, or 311,000*l.* a year. It will not be given to any ecclesiastical purpose, nor to any educational purpose, which might breed fresh quarrels, nor to any great public works, nor to aid in lightening poor's rates. It must be given in Ireland, and so as to benefit as largely and equally as possible the poor of Ireland. The Bill provides for its being appropriated to the relief of inevitable calamity. Thus, 185,000*l.* will be given to lunatic asylums; 20,000*l.* a year to idiot asylums; 30,000*l.* to training schools for deaf, dumb, and blind; 15,000*l.* for the training of nurses; 10,000*l.* for reformatories; and 51,000*l.* to county infirmaries. In promoting these charitable institutions, there is no clashing of creeds or of parties. In Ireland they are greatly needed and but poorly sustained. The county cess on which they rest for support falls upon occupiers and reaches the very poorest, making itself felt as a heavy burden. This burden will cease when the provisions of the Bill are carried into effect, and every Irish peasant will have the benefit of this healing measure brought home to

him in the shape of relief from taxation. In another way, moreover, the Bill will tell beneficially on the agricultural population. The Church lands will be sold, but the Commissioners are to give the right of pre-emption to the occupying tenants, but with this advantage, that the purchase-money to three-fourths of its amount may be left upon the security of the land, and that the charge so remaining may be liquidated by instalments.

THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF IRISH CHURCH PROPERTY.

VI. FROM THE ACT OF UNION TO A.D. 1834.

It might have been supposed that enough had been done by the Parliament of Ireland for the endowment of the State Church, but the first Act of the Imperial Parliament, after the Union had been constituted, was to make a grant towards the endowment, erection and repair of churches in that country. These grants were continued for twenty-five years, and amounted to the following sums:—

	£	s.	d.
1801	5,333	13	9
1802	13,321	14	10
1803	4,615	7	8
1804	4,615	7	8
1805	10,153	16	11
1806	7,153	16	10
1807	4,615	7	8
1808	4,615	7	8
1809	31,903	16	11
1810	87,091	11	9
1811	89,059	7	8
1812	61,661	10	9
1813	55,384	12	3
1814	68,600	0	0
1815	55,384	12	3
1816	60,461	10	9
1817	47,953	16	11
1818	23,168	6	5
1819	26,722	3	4
1820	30,737	8	0
1821	31,244	16	11
1822	9,230	0	0
1823	16,559	4	7
1824	276	18	5
1825	276	18	5

The aggregate of these sums is 749,541*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* During the whole of this time, and for some years afterwards, parochial assessments were made for the same purpose. Every measure of coercion, in fact, was employed to strengthen and augment the material resources of the Establishment. As a result of this we find, in A.D. 1819, in a return made to the House of Commons, that there were 1,140 churches in 1,270 benefices, showing an increase of 139 churches since A.D. 1800, and instead of 354 parsonage or glebe houses we have now 717. Considering the money that had been granted, and that the Church-rates and First Fruits were applied to the same purposes as the grants, the result should certainly have been greater than this. But it was an age of jobbery and corruption. One has only to read Mr. Hume's speeches from 1822 to 1825, to realise the extent to which those immoral elements entered into the administration of the Irish Church. Although the revenues of the sees at that time were probably more than 100,000*l.* per annum, they were assessed for the First Fruits at only 3,176*l.*, while the average yearly contributions of the clergy for ten years to the same fund, was only 370*l.*, or little more than the average value of one benefice. As to administration, Wakefield estimated that if the landed property of the Archbishop of Armagh only were let out as other property was, it would produce 180,000*l.* a year. But the system of fines had ruined it as regards yearly value, and every archbishop felt compelled to adopt the same system because his predecessors had done so.

Public opinion, excited by these and similar revelations, reiterated year after year by the reformers of our father's times, at last compelled the adoption of reformatory measures. A Commission of Ecclesiastical Inquiry was appointed, which, in the course of the four years, from 1833 to 1837, issued a series of reports relating to the resources and the appropriation of Church revenues. We find from these reports, and those of the Commissioners of Public Instruction, that the number of churches in Ireland had increased from 1,140 in A.D. 1819 to 1,537 in A.D. 1834. The nature and value of the property then held by the Church was thus stated:—

Sees	£151,127
Glebe lands	92,000
Minister money	10,300
Tithe compositions	531,732
Rents, &c.	7,500
Common estate of deans and chapters	1,043
Economy	11,055
Minor canons	10,525
	£815,381

Taking these items in their order, we find that the lands and tithes possessed by the bishops came into the Church at the Reformation, being subsequently augmented by large grants from James I. and Charles I. out of the revenues of estates that had been confiscated to the Crown by the rebellion of that period. The glebe lands owed their origin mainly to three sources—first, the Acts of the Reformation; secondly, the confiscations under James and Charles; thirdly, the work of the Board of First Fruits. Unquestionably, however, some of this property is of private origin, but how much, it is at present impossible to say. It is, however, known as a matter of history, that there have been restitutions of glebe lands from impropiators, and that private individuals have endowed certain parishes with land for the use and benefit of the incumbents. Irish Protestants, demoralised although they have been, have not been altogether destitute of the feeling of Christian benevolence. They have had little stimulus and little occasion to exercise it, but they have sometimes, and in isolated instances, shown not a commonly benevolent, but a very generous and self-sacrificing disposition. Bad as the system has been, it has not utterly crushed out, in all minds, the sentiment of Christian duty.

"Ministers' money," as our readers are aware, was a local tax for the support of the clergy, which, subsequently to this period, and owing to the exertions of the "Liberation Society," was ultimately abolished. The "Tithe Compositions" come wholly under the category of law-created income.

It will be noticed that neither the value of churches nor the value of parsonage or glebe houses, is included in the above summary; but information was obtained by the Commissioners with respect not merely to the value, but to the origin of both these classes of edifice. Amongst the information required with respect to the churches was the following:—"The number of churches and chapels in each benefice; the accommodation which each is capable of affording; the duties performed in each; their distance from one another if more than one; when each was built, at what expense, and from what funds; how much of the cost of building remains charged on the benefice, and when will the same be paid off?"

As a sample, taken without selection, of the answers that were given to this inquiry, we give the following from the Skryne Union, in the diocese of Meath:—"One church, situate in Templekeirn parish, capable of accommodating 110 persons, built in 1811 by means of parochial assessment and a loan of 461*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* Brit., granted by the late Board of First Fruits, but no means of ascertaining the sum raised by parochial assessment for this purpose. . . . An addition has lately been made to the church by means of a gallery, at an expense of 50*l.*, provided by the parish." Whatever loan was granted in such cases as the above by the Board of First Fruits was granted on the security of parochial rates—payable, of course, by the Catholics, who were not asked whether they would, or would like to pay, or not. The Ecclesiastical Inquiry Commissioners say upon this subject, "The system of issuing money by way of loans, repayable by annual instalments, at a low rate of interest, has tended more than any other to promote the building of churches and chapels-of-ease in Ireland. All parts of the country seem to have availed themselves of the advantage, and considerable sums were accordingly granted by the trustees of First Fruits, not only in the way of loans, but also in that of gifts." These gifts were also often met by private benefactions, but the amount of these benefactions was comparatively very insignificant. In the provinces of Armagh and Tuam the cost of building 322 churches was definitely ascertained. It amounted to 492,855*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* Of this sum 121,260*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* was contributed by the Board of First Fruits in the way of gift, and 212,485*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.* in the way of loan. The private donations were only 109,816*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*, and the parochial assessments 47,989*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* There remained to be supplied by parochial assessment the sum of 47,989*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* This gives, from the province of Armagh and Tuam, not quite one-fourth as having been contributed by private donations. In the province of Dublin and Cashel, the particulars with respect to the building of 376 churches were ascertained. The sum of money spent was 494,252*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* Of this the Board of First Fruits contributed 173,506*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* by way of gift, and 201,540*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* by way of loan. The private donations were only 56,821*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*, and the parochial assessments 51,524*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* There remained to be discharged by parochial assessment a debt of 243,992*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* In this province, therefore, the private donations amounted to only one-ninth of what was raised from compulsory sources.

Very similar is the history of the glebe-houses. We gave in our last article the substance of certain Acts of Parliament granting pecuniary faculties for the erection of these houses. These Acts were passed for the purpose of encouraging incumbents to build houses for themselves, and certain sums of money were granted in order to excite them to action. More recent Acts allowed loans, as well as gifts, to be made for this purpose, the latter to be repayable in terms of years by the successive incumbents. The information demanded by the Inquiry Commissioners was put in the following form:—"The time and expense at which the respective glebe-houses were built—from which fund—whether under the old or the new Acts, with the amount of the sums certified to have been paid by the present incumbents as well as the amounts of those payable to them by their successors, or those remaining a charge on the benefice." We take again one illustration to show the working of the system—the parish of Middletown in the diocese of Armagh:—"Middletown glebe-house," is the reply, "built under the new Acts in 1812, at the cost of 507l. 13s. 10d., British; whereof 415l. 7s. 8d. was granted in way of gift, and 46l. 3s. 1d. in that of loan, by the late Board of First Fruits, and the residue of 46l. 3s. 1d. was supplied out of the private funds of the builder." The total result as regards glebe-houses, in 1834, was, with respect to the provinces of Armagh and Tuam, as follows:—

Number of Glebe Houses	466
Cost	£450,794 3 11½

This was met by—

	£	s.	d.
Gifts of the Board of First Fruits	81,353	16	6
Loans of the Board of First Fruits	133,540	7	10½
Expended by Incumbents	235,215	11	10½

In the provinces of Dublin and Cashel the figures stood as follows:—

Number of Glebe Houses	363
Cost	£326,395 11 6

This was met by—

	£	s.	d.
Gifts of the Board of First Fruits	70,425	0	0
Loans of the Board of First Fruits	117,247	3	5½
Expended by Incumbents	136,431	2	10½

In all cases where the incumbent built and provided money for building, he could reclaim from his successors. Under recent Acts he was obliged to build, and took his benefice subject to that obligation. It was one of the complaints of Mr. Hume in 1824 that this obligation was so frequently evaded. To what extent this was the case is shown by the circumstance that in 1836 there were still some hundreds of benefices without glebe-houses.—In our next paper we shall begin to analyse the nature of Irish Church property in 1867.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

WHILE Convocation has again been true to its origin and constitution, we see, in the most recent proceedings of that body, some ground for hope that it is becoming alive to the signs of the times. It was of course, to be taken for granted, that the Lower House, which, ever since William III.'s time, has been the most exclusive and intolerant of the two Houses, would memorialise in rather strong and unconditional language, in favour of the Irish Church. It did so. It was also to be expected that some exceptionally virulent Churchman in that body would say something about the expediency of the State sustaining the Church even if the Crown were endangered. This Archdeacon Moore, the representative of a family of nepotists which has happily no parallel now in the English Church, did; but the better sense of the Upper has taken all that was offensive from the amendments of the Lower House, and the memorial which will actually go to the Queen, is such an one, as no reasonable man, looking at the actual position of Convocation, could object to. After this some practical subjects were brought forward, the most important of which we single out from the "notices of motion," for they are indications that even in this most Conservative of all bodies, the influence of public opinion is beginning to be felt. Thus, we find motions upon the system of patronage and the law of simony, upon alterations in the Book of Common Prayer, the reform of Convocation as respects the representation of the clergy, the exchange of livings, the condition of the Church in Wales, the revision of the Scriptures, and the Statute of *Premunire*. All these things show that the minds of certain members of Convocation are not entirely dead, although, for all practical purposes, Convocation may be as dead, to make use of Charles Dickens's improvement upon the old saying, "as a coffin nail." But in this instance the clergy propose and the State disposes. Before all those subjects could be discussed

Convocation was adjourned to next June. What it may do then nobody knows. It may meet to find the Irish Church actually abolished, and to be adjourned a second time in an hour or so. Such are the liberties of the Church! We do not comment in more derisive language upon its proceedings, because of the merciless treatment which this body has received from all the public journals. When every hand is against it, when every lip expresses contempt, and every eye scorn, we feel it to be charitable to forbear further remark. It will meet again in June, and ought not that fact to be enough for its greatest enemy?

The York Convocation is, on the whole, bolder than its southern sister. We find it, too, penetrated to a greater or less extent by the spirit of the times, but to a much greater extent than that of the south. Here the bishops and clergy, as once was always the custom, sit and discuss questions together, and some advantage appears to accrue from the arrangement. One important resolution was carried at York on the motion of Canon Randolph:—

That a committee be appointed to examine into the constitution of the canons ecclesiastical, with a view to their adaptation to the present times, and to report to this Convocation whether it is the opinion of such committee that application should be made to the Crown for license to alter and amend such constitutions and canons with a view to their adaptation to the present necessities of the Church, with power to confer with any similar committee of the Convocation of Canterbury.

These canons are now only the teeth of dead old ecclesiastical bigots, and, although, in some controversial positions, Nonconformists may get an advantage from them, they at present serve, by a sort of galvanic activity, only to bite the reputation of the Church for whose protection they were made. Yet it is an advantage that we can afford to dispense with. Let them be repealed by all means, and the Church's character be so much the more purified. The York Convocation has gone so far as to entertain a motion for the admission of the laity in representation, which, after a long discussion, was negatived by twenty-seven to eight votes. But the fact that even eight votes were actually recorded in favour of such a motion shows how fast Church prejudices are melting away, and Church opinion is advancing. A motion was also carried in favour of union with Wesleyans. If Convocation had laymen amongst them they would save themselves from a great deal of useless work such as this.

The proceedings of these bodies have excited the undisguised astonishment of our innocent contemporary the *Spectator*. Our contemporary appears to be equally grieved and surprised to find that the clergy of the Established Church, as represented in these bodies, are what everybody has always known them to be. It begins an article on "The Clergy and the Nation," with these words, "It is impossible not to feel that the greatest danger to the Church of England at the present moment is not the policy of the Government, but the attitude of the clergy themselves in relation to the policy of the Government." It has discovered that the bishops are at least inclined to side with the most Conservative, and not with the most Liberal element in the House of Lords, and that in the Lower House, "you see Toryism enacted, Toryism of the most malignant type, Toryism which is no more affected by the great national declaration of opinion in favour of Mr. Gladstone's policy than if that declaration had been made by the beasts of the field, instead of the people." The *Spectator* is aghast at this circumstance. It has clearly come upon it as a revelation. It could not have believed that the clergy of its pet Established Church would behave so badly. The *Spectator*, since Mr. Rintoul's time, never has shown the slightest knowledge of history, or more than the most blundering attempts to gauge public opinion. It is improving, however, for it now says:—

Seriously, the debate in the Lower House of Convocation promises very ill for the prospects which all who love the National Church must desire with their whole heart. The clergy are talking the most rank and undiluted Toryism. No party meeting of Tories in the country has ventured to announce views nearly so rabid. They are talking worse and fiercer Toryism than they did last session. They are apparently irritated by the verdict of the nation into more violent opposition to its wishes than ever. They speak of themselves as prophets who announce God's anger against the nation for its resolve, as Samuel announced God's anger against Israel for desiring a king. They are willing to set the Crown against the Parliament if they can; they challenge martyrdom rather than abate a jot of their wrath against the popular will. What can all this end in except a wider alienation of the Church from the people? And who but the clergy will then be to blame for that alienation? And they are utterly without excuse. If this attack on the Irish Church had been led by a worldly cynic, or even an ardent Nonconformist, there would have been some palliation for their blindness. But as it is, the statesman who has ventured to ask for justice to Catholic Ireland is the man of all others whose attachment to our own Church is cordial and notorious. Could not the clergy have at least tried to enter into the motives of such a man as Mr. Gladstone? Could they not at least have opposed him, if oppose him they must,

in that temperate and respectful spirit, which might have done full justice to his reasoning, and admitted the great difficulty and urgency of the problem? As it is, they are apparently bent upon a course the only effect of which will be to alienate the nation, and to endanger the Church which they no doubt fervently love, and for which, in this dim, blind, helpless sort of fashion, they are seeking to express an undue, because an unmeasured and unscrupulous, as well as a dangerous and destructive, homage.

Everybody with any knowledge wrote like this a generation ago.

If the *Spectator* shows such extraordinary and unexpected advance, what is not to be said of the *Guardian*? In relation to its party, however, the *Guardian* has never shown a want of either intelligence or sagacity. It is an able, cultured, and candid leader of opinion, which any body of men, ecclesiastical or political, might be proud to possess. The most significant feature in its last number, is the appearance of an article on Mr. Forster's Endowed Schools Bill, without a word against the religious equality provisions which that Bill contains. A few years ago, an article on that subject, based upon a similar Bill, would, in all probability, have referred exclusively, and in very remonstrative language, to those provisions. Now? Now, they are accepted as a matter of course.

We referred a fortnight since to the literary discussion between Mr. Holden and Dr. Rigg, respecting John Wesley's works. Having done so, we now feel bound to give a reply, which Dr. Rigg has forwarded in the shape of a memorandum from an old and reverend member of the body, now ninety years of age—whom, we do not specify, because Dr. Rigg does not do so. The question is plainly put by this reverend father as follows:—

Dr. South says, "The reasons of things generally lie in a small compass." The matter so long and tiresomely agitated in the *Guardian* newspaper is simply this:—

1. About sixty years ago an edition of Mr. Wesley's works was published in sixteen volumes octavo. It was understood to contain the whole of the author's prose writings; yet a sermon on the Ministerial Office was omitted; the sermon having appeared in the *Arminian Magazine*. The sermon forbade the Methodist preachers to administer the sacraments. Whether the sermon was omitted by accident or design, who can tell, the editor of the works being dead nearly fifty years? That the omission was accidental is highly probable for the following reasons:—

(1.) The doctrine of the sermon was in full accordance with the sentiments of the editor, who is well known to have been opposed to the administration of the sacraments by the Methodist preachers, himself belonging avowedly to the Church party.

(2.) His edition omits some twenty other publications of Mr. Wesley's, including two sermons which had not previously been collected.

(3.) The edition is otherwise singularly incorrect, perpetuating some hundreds of errors which Mr. Wesley had corrected in a former edition of his works, many of which grievously mar the same.

(4.) The truth is, the editor, Mr. Benson, one of the most upright of men, an accomplished preacher and scholar, was engaged in writing a commentary upon the Bible, which required his undivided attention, a part of the work being published monthly.

2. The imperfection of this edition of Mr. Wesley's works was acknowledged, and when another edition was called for in 1829, the defects were remedied, and the sermon concerning which so much has been said and written was inserted in its proper place; and since then, a period of forty years, it has appeared in every edition of Mr. Wesley's works, and in every edition of his sermons. Yet, from week to week, from month to month, from year to year, a practical error which was committed some sixty years ago, and remedied forty years ago, is fathered upon the present generation of Methodists, as if they were the offending parties!

Some time since we had occasion to remark on the progress of Free-Churchism in the United States. We now give the latest statistics from the "Statistical Tables" published by Mr. Joseph M. Wilson, of Philadelphia:—

In the total of church edifices of all kinds, there are sittings for 19,128,751 of the 31,500,000 population of the country. The total value of these churches in 1860 was \$4,800,000. The following are the proportions of church accommodation provided by the various denominations:—

Methodist	6,259,799
Baptist	4,044,318
Presbyterian	2,565,949
Roman Catholic	1,404,487
Congregational	956,351
Episcopal	847,206
Lutheran	757,637
Christian	681,016
Union	371,899
German Reformed	273,697
Friends	269,084
Universalist	235,219
Dutch Reformed	211,068
Unitarian	138,213
Jewish	34,412
Moravian	20,316
Adventist	17,120
Swedenborgian	15,395
Spiritualist	6,275
Shaker	5,300
Minor Sects	14,150

Total 19,128,751

Of the Church accommodations, nearly 17,000,000 are provided by the Protestant Churches commonly called evangelical, so that more than half of the entire population could worship every Sabbath in such churches if they would.

CONVOCAATION AND THE IRISH CHURCH.

The Lower House of Convocation of the Province of Canterbury (says the *Star*) has made itself conspicuous for many outrages on public opinion; but in the debate on the Address to the Crown, which took place on Wednesday, it entered on a new phase of activity, and appears in a revolutionary character. The Address as it was drafted in the Upper House was a most prudent, and, considering its episcopal origin, a most moderate and reasonable production. It touched, indeed, as it could hardly avoid touching, on the great question of the hour, but it passed lightly over the concealed fires of political controversy, and concluded with an expression of hope and an admonitory prayer in which none of us will refuse to join.

We look forward with deep anxiety (in the language of the Address) to the measures which may be proposed to Parliament respecting the Irish branch of the United Church; and we trust that the interests of true religion may not be lost sight of amid the conflicts of political parties; and we pray that whatever course may finally receive the sanction of the Legislature it may tend to that which all loyal hearts desire, the peace, the enlightenment, and the good government of Ireland.

In these sentences there is no attempt to prejudice the policy of Mr. Gladstone—no underhand effort to call in the Queen's support, or to assume the appearance of having enlisted it on the side of the reaction. It was not fated, however, that Convocation should be represented on this occasion by the wise neutrality of the bishops. The Lower House which the last general election has sent back to the Jerusalem Chamber, hotter than ever in its fanaticism, and purged almost wholly of its slight alloy of Liberal thought, received the Address with a feeling, as we may conjecture from the debate, of general disgust at the Laodicean caution of the prelates. The adoption of the draft was moved by Canon Blakeley, who, with Dean Stanley and one or two others, still remain to temper the furious clerical rancour of the Lower House with a mild type of Liberalism. Canon Selwyn, however, rose immediately to move the addition of a rider to the Address.

Praying her Majesty not to assent to any measure for repealing, with respect to any portion of the United Kingdom, those parts of the Great Charter and the 1st William and Mary, esp. 6, and other statutes, which secure the rights and privileges of the Church, nor to any measure for alienating to secular purposes any portion of the property or revenues which have been dedicated to the maintenance of the worship of Almighty God and the support of His ministers.

Upon this motion a long debate ensued, and principles which strangely illustrate the unteachable obstinacy of the clerical intelligence were enounced with the most imperturbable dogmatism. The rider was finally adopted by a majority of thirty-six against fifteen voices. A further addition to the Address, which was proposed by Archdeacon Denison and accepted by the House, informed her Majesty that,—

Above all we are constrained, by our sense of duty to your Majesty and to the Reformed Church of England and Ireland, humbly to represent to your Majesty that the disestablishment of the Church in Ireland cannot be had without repudiation, on the part of this nation, of the necessity and the value of the Reformation.

And with these additions the Address was sent back to the Upper House. In the prior discussion which took place Archdeacon Denison said that "a great national sin was on the point of being committed, a sin from which the nation could never recover. He had no hope, and no faith in, the future of England, if that great sin were once committed." Dr. Jebb thought it "the most ungodly and wicked attempt ever made in this country," and proceeded to describe the mind of the great author of the mischief as "a vacillating, uncertain, ultra-metaphysical mind"—"a man who is the victim of his own intellect, and who has sacrificed his better feelings to the sophistries which his own mind originated." To the Dean of Ely's cautious Archdeacon Moore replied, "Better jeopardise her (the Queen's) crown than destroy the Church."

In the Upper House on Thursday the Prolocutor brought from the Lower House the Address to the Queen which the Archbishop and bishops had agreed to and sent down for consideration. He said the Lower House had made additions, to which their lordships' assent was asked, relating to the Irish Church. The Bishop of Oxford said the first amendment was most objectionable. It was not at all within the province of Convocation to deal in the way proposed with measures which were coming forward in the House of Commons. To pray her Majesty not to agree to anything that Parliament might determine was entirely beyond the scope of their body. He thought, indeed, the prayer was unconstitutional and unfitting. While he considered that the Address which had been sent down from their lordships contained all that was right and necessary on the subject, he did not object to the addition of a few words which would make the address run thus:—

We look forward with deep anxiety to the measures which may be proposed to Parliament respecting the Church now by law established in Ireland, and we trust that the interests of true religion and the just claims of that ancient and reformed communion may not be lost sight of amidst the conflicts of political parties.

After a brief discussion this was agreed to, and both the amendments of the Lower House were rejected.

On Friday there was a large attendance in the Lower House, and a pretty warm debate took place on the rejection of the amendments in the Address to the Queen. It was resolved, on the motion of Archdeacon Denison, that a conference with the Upper House should be requested. The Prolocutor proceeded to the Upper House to request the conference, and returning, said that their lordships had consented to alter that part of their Address to the

Crown which related to the Irish Church as above. Upon hearing this Archdeacon Denison withdrew his motion asking for a conference, and the Address was adopted as that "of the bishops and clergy." The other business having been disposed of, the House was prorogued to the 16th of June.

It seems that the Convocation at York has also taken into consideration the Irish Church question. At the final sitting on Thursday the Dean of York in a long address moved a resolution affirming that Convocation views with sorrow and alarm the proposed disendowment and disestablishment of the Irish Church as seriously affecting the integrity of the Church, as an encroachment upon the privileges of the Crown, and as unsettling the Constitution in Church and State as guaranteed by the Act of Union. An amendment was moved declaring that as no definite measure on the subject had yet been submitted to Parliament, it was desirable to postpone its consideration until Mr. Gladstone's scheme had been explained. Perhaps the most noticeable incident in the discussion was the advice given by the Dean of Chester, who counselled moderation, and declared that disestablishment was inevitable. The resolution, however, was passed by twenty-nine votes against six, and an address to the Queen, expressing the opinion of the Convocation, was also adopted.

ANOTHER REPORTED PERVERSION.—The *Onestry Advertiser* states that the Rev. Mr. Husbands, of Selattyn, son of the late rector of that parish, has been admitted into the Roman Catholic Church at Welshpool.

NEW ECCLESIASTICAL PROSECUTION.—The Archbishop of York has at length commenced legal proceedings against the Rev. C. Voysey, vicar of Healaugh, on account of some of the sermons he has published in the series known as the "Sling and the Stone."

ARCHBISHOP MANNING.—The *Weekly Register* says:—"Archbishop Manning will leave Rome in time to be in London for Passion Week. It seems that there is no truth in the report sent us from Rome that his Grace is to receive a cardinal's hat. For the present, at any rate, there is no chance of this taking place."

ARCHDEACON DENISON AGAIN.—In the Lower House of Convocation on Thursday Archdeacon Denison presented a petition of enormous length, declaring that the doctrine of the Real Presence was the true doctrine of the Church of England, and praying that those who held it might be protected from imputations of unfaithfulness. The Archdeacon was several times interrupted in reading the document, and at one time declared that he would leave the House and never return. Ultimately, though not without many indignant remonstrances, he was allowed to finish and to present it.

THE LIBERAL PRESBYTERIANS OF ULSTER.—The inaugural meeting of the Belfast Presbyterian Association was held at Belfast on Thursday night. Its objects are to diffuse information regarding the distinctive principles of Presbyterianism; to promote the return to Parliament of members to truly represent the opinions of Presbyterian electors; to secure the opening to general competition of all honours and emoluments in the national universities and educational establishments supported by public funds, and the removal of the civil social disabilities under which Nonconformists labour. The meeting was largely attended, and great success attended the commencement of an important movement.

CONSECRATION OF THREE BISHOPS.—A very imposing ceremony took place in Westminster Abbey on Wednesday morning. Three bishops were consecrated—Dr. Wordsworth, to the bishopric of Lincoln; the Rev. J. F. Turner, a son of the late Lord Justice Turner, to the Australian bishopric of Grafton and Armidale; and the Rev. T. G. Hatchard, late rector of St. Nicholas, Guildford, to the bishopric of Mauritius. As a mark of respect to Dr. Wordsworth, both Houses of Convocation attended the service, they having suspended their sittings for that purpose. There was a full choral service. The sermon was preached by Archdeacon Bickersteth.

THE CHURCH ASSOCIATION held a great aggregate meeting at St. James's Hall on Wednesday, under the presidency of Mr. Colquhoun. The members were congratulated upon the results of the proceedings against Mr. Mackonochie, and it was announced that they were about to take steps to obtain a legal decision in relation to the use of vestments, besides which it was intended to continue their exertions to obtain a reform of the ecclesiastical courts. The guarantee fund for the purposes of the association exceeds 52,000*l.*, and that the late Mackonochie trial had cost about 6,000*l.* The principal speakers on Wednesday were Mr. J. C. Colquhoun (the chairman), Mr. Joseph Hoare, the Rev. C. Kemble, Mr. O'Malley, Q.C., Mr. Thomas Chambers, Q.C., M.P., and the Rev. J. C. Ryle.

THE BENNETT TRIAL.—THE DOCTRINE OF THE REAL PRESENCE.—The Bishop of Bath and Wells has consented, on the report of the Commission issued by the present Archbishop of Canterbury, to send the case of the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, vicar of Frome, to the Court of Arches, and the matter will come before Sir Robert Phillimore in the course of a few weeks. The complaint against Mr. Bennett will be that he teaches a real, actual, and visible presence of the Lord upon the altar, and that without that doctrine, containing and inferring the sacerdotal office of the priest, and the sacrificial character of the altar, there would be no altar at all. It is rumoured that these proceedings are likely to break down in consequence of an indisposition to allow them to go on on the part of the new Bishop of London.

TRANSFORMATION OF A CHURCH.—There is an Anglican Church, not a hundred miles from Queens-square, Bloomsbury, which is now undergoing sundry alterations and renovations. A gentleman who happened to pass by the building, a few days ago, entered it, and asked one of the head workmen what they were doing with the church. "We are turning it into a High Church, sir," answered the man. "What do you mean?" asked the other. "Well, sir," was the reply, "you see it was a regular Church of England concern, but now we are making it one of those new-fashioned affairs what tries to do business in the Romanist fashion." The inquirer, himself a Romanist, retired, considerably edified by the explanation, thinking that out of the mouths of the humble often proceedeth wisdom.—*Weekly Register* (Roman Catholic organ).

Religious and Denominational News.

LUTON.—The Rev. W. J. Holder has accepted the cordial invitation to become assistant minister to the Rev. J. Hiles Hitchens, of Luton.

YEOVIL.—The foundation stone of a new Wesleyan Chapel was laid at Yeovil on Tuesday last, by Sir Francis Lytton. The style is to be Gothic, and the total cost of the edifice, including site, will be 3,000*l.*

ORDINATION OF A PARSEE.—Among the deacons ordained by the Bishop of Oxford on Sunday was Shapurji Edulji—a Parsee, it may be presumed. In India there are a good many native clergymen, but Mr. Edulji has not been set apart for the evangelisation of his fellow-countrymen. He takes his place among the clergy of England, and is at this moment curate of Burford and Fulbrook, not many miles from Oxford itself.—*Record*.

TAYLOR-HILL, NEAR HUDDERSFIELD.—On Saturday afternoon the foundation-stone of a new Primitive Methodist chapel and school was laid at Taylor-hill by Mrs. Alfred Crowther, wife of Ald. Crowther, of Lockwood. The edifice, a stone building in the Gothic style of architecture, will accommodate about two hundred people, and will cost between 500*l.* and 600*l.* The Rev. J. Barker, minister of the Baptist Chapel, Lockwood, gave an address. A tea-party and public meeting were also held in the evening.

NOTTING-HILL.—On Friday night the Victoria Hall, Archer-street, Bayswater, was crowded by an enthusiastic meeting of the friends and admirers of the Rev. Charles White, on the occasion of his resignation of the ministerial charge of Cornwall-road Chapel. Mr. Benjamin T. Williams, M.A., J.P., was in the chair, and bore high testimony to the excellent social qualities and the ability and eloquence of Mr. White. The Rev. James Bonthron, M.A., and other gentlemen addressed the meeting, and there was a strong protest unanimously urged against so capable a preacher being permitted to leave the district. Several hints were thrown out as to the formation of a new congregation.

LANDPORT.—On Tuesday, the 16th inst., the memorial stone of the new Congregational chapel in Abercrombie-street, Landport, was laid by R. E. Davies, Esq., ex-Mayor of Portsmouth. The Rev. W. Rose offered prayer, the Rev. W. Jones read a portion of Scripture, and the Rev. G. Beveridge, of Fareham, gave the address. The old chapel has been pulled down, and a new one erected at a cost of 830*l.* It is built in the Gothic style, and will seat 350 persons. In commemoration of the event a tea-meeting was held the same evening at the Landport Hall. The chair was occupied by the ex-Mayor, R. E. Davies, and addresses were delivered by the Revs. H. Kitching, M'Arthur, Griggs, Pastor, Roberts, Hastings, and Beveridge, and Messrs. Jenkins, Sharland, Perlin, and Cradlington.

HITCHIN.—On Wednesday, February 24th, the Rev. J. Aldis, jun., was publicly recognised as pastor of the Baptist church in this town. After reading and prayer by Rev. T. Hands, of Luton, Mr. Shadwell reviewed the past history of the church, and stated the circumstances which led to the present settlement. After which the Rev. J. Aldis, of Reading (father of the new pastor), delivered an admirable address on the nature and spirit of the Christian ministry. The Rev. J. P. Chown, of Bradford, next addressed the church on the duties and privileges arising out of the new relationship. At five o'clock about 300 friends sat down to tea in the schoolroom. In the evening a public meeting was held, presided over by the Rev. W. Robinson, of Cambridge, and addresses were delivered by the Revs. T. Hands, T. Wigner, T. R. Stevenson, J. Keed, P. Griffith, and others.

LIVERPOOL.—On the evening of Tuesday, Feb. 9, the church and congregation worshipping in the Great George-street Chapel, Liverpool, held their annual meeting. After tea in the schoolroom they assembled in the lecture-room, the Rev. Samuel Pearson, M.A. (the newly appointed pastor), presiding, when the senior deacon, in the name of the meeting, gave him a hearty welcome, and expressed the hope that his ministry might prove a blessing to the church and to the town at large. Mr. Pearson having made an appropriate reply, called on various gentlemen to give reports of the Christian work carried on by the people during the past year, in which they have been without a pastor. It was stated that there are now 591 names on the revised church roll, and that the receipts were 3,785*l.*, or, excluding pew-rents, 2,654*l.* An account was afterwards given of the operations and progress of a preaching station which was established at Edge-hill in 1857, and it was stated that the congregation thus gathered together removed early in December last to a neat and commodious chapel in Chatham-place, which a member of this church had bought from the

New Connexion Methodists, and handed over to them on easy terms. Having applied for and obtained recognition as a branch of this church, it is hoped that timely aid and counsel thus afforded them will enable the friends soon to become a self-supporting church.

CROYDON.—Last year a few gentlemen desirous of promoting the establishment of a Baptist Church, on the principle of open communion, and one that should fully represent the denomination in Croydon, formed themselves into a committee for this purpose, and hired the Public Hall for Sunday services. The Rev. John Stent, late of Notting-hill, was engaged as minister. The results of the experiment during eight months, though not equal to the expectations of the committee, afforded sufficient encouragement to induce them to purchase an iron church which had just become vacant. It is hoped that this temporary place may soon be superseded by a more substantial house, which shall be the home of a large and flourishing church. There is ample room (with a population of 50,000 in Croydon) for such a church. On Tuesday evening, February 23rd, the Rev. Dr. Landels, of Regent's-park Chapel, gave an expression of his sympathy with the movement by preaching a sermon in the iron church. There was a good attendance, and a collection was made.

UNION CHAPEL, LUTON.—On Tuesday, February 16th, the annual meeting of the church and congregation worshipping in Union Chapel, Luton, was held in the schoolroom. After tea a densely-crowded meeting was held, and the chair having been taken by the pastor, the Rev. Thomas R. Stevenson, addresses were delivered by the Revs. J. A. Spurgeon and G. M. Murphy, of London; J. H. Cooke, T. Hands, and A. C. Gray, of Luton. Among other subjects adverted to by the speakers were the following:—"Promptitude in Labour for the Saviour"; "Work is Worship"; "Means of Personal Usefulness"; "The Simplicity of the Gospel, as opposed to Ritualistic Errors." The proceedings were of a highly gratifying nature, and gave general satisfaction. In the course of the evening it was stated that during the year, fifty-five persons had been added to the church (an advance upon the previous year) and, in spite of the depressed state of trade, the weekly offerings had been 17l. in excess of any previous twelvemonth. The clear profits of the tea were 31l. 5s. 11d.

BLISWORTH.—On Tuesday last services were held at Blisworth, in connection with the settlement of Mr. George Jarman, of Bristol College, as the pastor of the Baptist chapel in that place. The ceremony took place in the afternoon in the commodious chapel, which was thronged, there being, besides a large number of persons from the neighbourhood, a large attendance of the Baptist ministers of the district. After the usual devotional exercises, the Rev. Dr. Gotoh, President of Bristol College, delivered an address on "The Christian Church." Mr. Woodhouse, the senior deacon, explained the circumstances which led to the invitation of Mr. Jarman to the pastorate. They had no voting, or anything of that kind, but the members of the church were all of one mind in their desire to elect Mr. Jarman as their pastor. The usual questions were asked Mr. Jarman by the Rev. James Murrell, of Kettering, and these being satisfactory, Mr. Murrell offered the recognition. The Rev. T. T. Gough, of Clifton, Mr. Jarman's former pastor, delivered the charge. A tea-meeting, numerously attended, was afterwards held, followed by the evening meeting. The chapel was again crowded to excess. The Rev. John Turland Brown, of Northampton, presided, and he was supported by a large number of the ministers of the locality.

HALIFAX.—The new Congregational Church erected in this town at a cost of some 10,000l., in Hopwood-lane, near the People's Park, was opened on Wednesday last. 6,000l. has already been subscribed, and the new place of worship has been built under the auspices of a committee, consisting of the Independent ministers of the town, and some of the most influential members of the three congregations. The style of architecture is the early geometrical Gothic, and the chapel is built of Northampton pitch-faced wallstones and freestone dressings. It will accommodate nearly a thousand persons. At the opening services on Wednesday, the Rev. Newman Hall, of London, preached morning and evening, to large congregations. It was announced that only 1,700l. was required, and the collection in aid of the building fund in the morning amounted to 129l. 6s. On Thursday night a meeting of the Independents of Halifax was held in the New Park Congregational Church, to inaugurate the new church. The meeting was opened by the Rev. Charles Illingworth, and the Rev. E. Mellor delivered a suitable address. The Rev. B. Dale read the list of new members, there being eighty-seven from the three Congregational Churches in Halifax, and two from the Luddenden-foot Church. The rev. gentleman then specially addressed the members. The Rev. J. C. Gray spoke of the reasons which had led to the erection of the new church; and the Rev. Jas. Priddy also took part in the meeting.

GLASGOW.—The annual social meeting of the Elgin-place congregation and chapel, Glasgow, was held on the 16th. The Rev. Mr. Batchelor, pastor of the congregation, presided, and in his address to the meeting stated that during the ten years that he had been their pastor, they had lost by death 116 members, and 675 new members had joined. Their home-mission station in Bishop-street, Anderston, was doing its work well. The Dove-hill day-schools were in a state satisfactory to the committee. The Cowcaddens Female Mission continued to do good and earnest work, and the Female Benevolent Society had been discharging its duties as in former years.

The Dorcas Society had been prosecuting its labours as heretofore, a large number of articles being made for the poor. The Sabbath-school Society was marked by activity and progress. Besides the Congregational school meeting in the hall below the church, it embraced a number of Sabbath classes, meeting in various parts of the city. There had been an increase in the year of seven teachers and 207 scholars—the present number of teachers being 193, and of scholars 1,439. As to the church resources the treasurer reported a balance of 140l. 11s. in their favour, which went to reduce the debt on the ground occupied by the church. The total income of the church from all sources, so far as included in their reports, was 2,502l. 0s. 3d., and the total for the last ten years was 29,006l. 8s. 11½d. Addresses were subsequently delivered by the Revs. Messrs. Douglas, McLean, and Glover, and Dr. Raleigh.

KENTISH TOWN.—On Tuesday evening last week, the new lecture-room adjoining St. Paul's Chapel, Hawley-road, Kentish Town, was opened by a public meeting, the Rev. Samuel Martin, of Westminster, in the chair. After two short speeches from the chairman and the Rev. J. C. Harrison on the Sunday-school and the Church, and the New Lecture-room and the Church, the chairman of the building committee, Mr. Joseph Salter, made a financial statement, from which it appeared that the expense of the new building will be about 600l., of which the congregation had already raised 420l. There remained, therefore, 180l. to be cleared off. Before the end of the meeting 100l. was either given or promised, and the building committee reckon on extinguishing the remainder of the debt before the end of the year. The chairman of the committee had set a good example by giving a tenth of the whole sum for the erection, and Mr. Henry Spalding had gratuitously discharged the office of architect. Many friends from a distance were present on this interesting occasion, and several of the ministers of the neighbourhood. The Rev. John Stoughton, of Kensington, concluded the meeting, which was throughout of a very cheering character, by an excellent address on the desirableness of closer union between neighbouring churches. The musical arrangements of the evening included, besides several hymns and pieces of sacred music, an Evening Song, the words by the Rev. T. T. Lynch, the music by Mr. O. Dury.

BROAD-STREET CHAPEL, READING.—Some further correspondence has recently taken place in reference to this case. In a letter dated Feb. 17, Messrs. Lovell and Co. say that they are instructed by the defendant Mr. Gordon to say that if he is allowed to take possession of Broad-street Chapel as the sole pastor thereof, he will consent to an order to dismiss this bill without costs, and will authorise the trustees to pay over to Mr. Legg, during his life, all the income of the endowment. In their reply to their solicitors, the trustees say:—"We fully concur in your expression that the proposal in Messrs. Lovell's letter is most extraordinary, and had we received it through any other channel we should have doubted its authenticity. We have no hesitation in most distinctly declining any such proposals, and can only express our astonishment that they have been made. The grounds of our refusal may be stated as follows:—1st. To accept them would virtually be to dismiss Mr. Legg from the pastorate, a question which has nothing to do with the present suit, and which is simply impossible if Mr. Gordon's argument is good 'that a minister is appointed for life and cannot be removed.' 2nd. It would be in contravention of our trust, which requires us 'to give peaceable possession to the church,' and which must clearly mean the majority of the church, and who have expressed their confidence in Mr. Legg. 3rd. It is not in the power of the trustees to give possession as sole pastor in opposition to the vote of the church, which has twice rejected him as co-pastor, and further, that any such attempt would be opposed to every principle of Congregationalism. 4th. To pay the endowment to Mr. Legg would be an illegal act and breach of trust, the deed expressly providing that the endowment shall go to the minister so long as he shall continue to officiate as such. 5th. It would leave the great principle of the right to dismiss a pastor, for which we are contending, still unsettled."

DEATH OF THE REV. HENRY REES, LIVERPOOL.—It is with feelings of deep regret that we chronicle the demise of the Rev. Henry Rees, of Liverpool, which took place last Thursday, at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Richard Davies, M.P. for Anglesea. The rev. gentleman was in his seventy-second year, and he was the oldest Calvinistic Methodist minister in North Wales. Mr. Rees was known throughout Wales as one of the best preachers of the age, and whenever he favoured South Wales with a visit his ministrations were attended by large congregations, composed of men of all sects and creeds. The immediate cause of Mr. Rees' decease was inflammation of the lungs, brought on by a cold which seized him whilst attending the funeral of his old friend, the Rev. H. Hughes, of Aberegele. The following Sunday he preached twice at Wrexham, and both services were of an unusually solemn and impressive character, the reverend gentleman reminding his hearers that it was probably the last time he should have to appeal to them in his Master's service. A few days afterwards he became worse, and reaching Benorth, his son-in-law's house, he died there. Mr. Rees commenced preaching fifty years ago, and the whole of that time was passed by him as a conscientious and eloquent preacher of the Calvinistic Methodist connexion. He was ordained at Bala in 1827, and he removed to Liverpool in 1836, where he resided until his death. As a preacher Mr. Rees had few equals in Wales, and he was acknowledged to be one of the most eloquent and exhaustive preachers in

the country. He did not so much please by the music of his voice, and the floridness of his language, as by his thorough reasonings on any subject he took in hand. He made preaching a study, and he possessed the art of preaching in a greater degree than almost any one we know. Many and many a time has he preached at the various *cymdeithiadau* (associations) with such power and eloquence that his appearance there has been talked of at the cottage fireside for years after. He was one of the links which connected the last generation of Welsh preachers with the present, retaining the humility and fervid piety of the old, and assuming the manner of the new school. His remains were interred on Wednesday in Llandysillio churchyard, a large number of ministers of all denominations being present. From the speech made by Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., at the Welsh Liberal banquet, it appears that the incumbent of the church refused to allow any of the numerous ministers present to speak a few words over the grave, in accordance with the universal Welsh custom. That the ceremony of interring the remains of one of our most distinguished countrymen should be the occasion for such a show of bigotry and intolerance on the part of a clergyman, is not likely to increase the good feeling with which Dissenters view the Church Establishment in Wales.—*Cambria Daily Leader*.

Correspondence.

CHURCH-RATES AT ST. IVES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Yesterday, at a vestry meeting held by adjournment from the parish vestry-room to the school-room of the Free Church, for the purpose of considering the question of making a Church-rate, the vicar, the Rev. Charles Dashwood Goldie, affirmed, and for some time insisted it should be so, that all persons who wished to vote at that meeting, upon the question of making a rate, must first qualify themselves for so doing by signing a paper which he should lay on the table, agreeing thereby to pay the Church-rate, when made, since by Act of Parliament, no person who did not thus qualify had a right to vote! Thus was it attempted, either ignorantly or by subtility, to wrest the power out of the hands of the parishioners, and to put it into the hands of only those who wished to pay a rate, and who had pre-determined to lay the same. Other vicars may possibly attempt to do likewise. Let all right-minded Churchmen and Nonconformists look well to their rights as parishioners. They have the power at a vestry meeting to vote upon the question—shall there be or shall there not be a rate made?—but if a Church-rate be made, those only who pay it have a right to vote upon the expenditure of the moneys collected.

Some Nonconformists are of opinion that under the operation of the new Act no Dissenters' interests can be prejudicially affected, and that they are therefore not justified in interfering in the matter of making a rate.

In the course of this meeting attention was directed to the 8th clause of the Act, in which it is stated, that "if any occupier of any premises shall make default for one month after demand in payment of any Church-rate for which he is rated, the owner shall thereupon be entitled, until the next succeeding Church-rate is made, to stand for all purposes relating to Church-rates (including the attending at vestries and voting thereat), in the place in which the occupier should have stood."

It will be seen that the power possessed by a person who objects to pay the rate, may, by the operation of the Act, be, by the landlord, used to serve an end which the tenant has a conscientious objection to promote. A parishioner stated at the meeting that he knew a gentleman who said to his tenants, "My land always has paid Church-rates, and it always shall pay them. I will have only tenants who will pay." Here is the screw without disguise. This is not the only case in these parts.

Under clause 7 of the Act there is ample scope for Churchmen who choose to be narrow and unjust to gratify their wishes. Bodies corporate, trustees, guardians, committees may, if they think fit, pay Church-rates and have the same allowed to them in any account rendered by them respectively.

There are retained in the Act the terms "demand" and "defaulter." A rate-collector has consequently legal authority to say, "I demand the Church-rate." There are many people who dread law so heartily that they would not dream of questioning an official who, with the imperiousness which frequently characterises the manner of this class, should thus ask for payment. You may be sure the collector will not be at the trouble to add, "You are not obliged to pay this rate which I demand unless you like to do so voluntarily." Then, as to the word "defaulter." Many persons would much rather pay the rate demanded than be exposed to what they would consider the stigma of being pointed at, according to law, as a defaulter. The word is ugly to the eye and unpleasant to the ear. The Act can, in several ways, be made a cause of irritation and vexation—indeed, under subtle management, may be converted into an engine of galling persecution.

It gives to Churchmen who are so disposed the opportunity of clanking in the faces of Dissenters some parts of the machinery by means of which the dominant

sect in past days so unrighteously sought to force consciences and to circumscribe liberty. It is to be feared those who are priestly in their notions and sympathies wish to have things as they are. If not, why desire to introduce the Church-rate as the mode of collecting money, when the collection might be made with less loss of time, with less expense, and with less unpleasantness by a simple friendly application for voluntary aid? In our case the sum alleged by the vicar to be necessary is forty pounds!—a sum contemptibly small when the numbers, position, and means of Churchmen are taken into account.

The Bishop of Ely has enjoyed the reputation of being particularly conciliating towards all Christian sects. Upon the authority of our vicar, it appears the diocesan has recommended that, where money is required, a rate should in every case be tried. This scarcely looks like the advice of one whose spirit is of the conciliatory order. The fact, however, may not be as stated. Let anti-Church-rate payers be on the alert.

Yours, &c.,

THOMAS LLOYD.

St. Ives, Hunts, Feb. 26, 1869.

PRIVATE GIFTS TO STATE CHURCHES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—In the first article of your last impression you say, "The whole property of the existing Church Establishment in Ireland should be resumed by the State, to be appropriated in due time to Irish purposes, other than ecclesiastical, after liberal compensation of the personal interests involved; but endowments originating in private beneficence, and church edifices and mansees where they can be kept up, may be made over to the newly-organised Protestant Episcopal community."

Now, I am not able to see on what principle that part of the Church's property obtained by "private beneficence" should be given up by the State, or separated from the rest of her property, which you say "should be resumed by the State." Can a national or State institution hold private property? Is not an article presented by a private benefactor to the British Museum the property of the State as much as the building itself, which was erected or purchased by State funds? Did not the law decide that the *quoad sacra* churches in Scotland, built by voluntary subscriptions prior to the Disruption, belonged to the Established Church, and could not be claimed by the Free Church, though built mainly by the "private beneficence" of her members? Is not the Government as much the trustee of that part of the Irish Church's property acquired by "private beneficence" as of any other portion of it? If so, then on what rests the right of the Government to do with it as you recommend, viz., that it be "made over to the newly-organised Protestant Episcopal community"? If all the Church's property which is the fruit of "private beneficence" was given or bequeathed to her, and accepted by the Government, with the proviso, that on her connection with the State ever ceasing, it should go with her as a voluntary community, then I can see the justice of your recommendation. But were these the conditions on which such gifts were granted to her, and accepted by the State? Justice, as well as generosity, requires that all personal life interests be respected in disendowing her; but to go beyond this seems to me not fair to the other ecclesiastical bodies, and to make "religious equality" in Ireland an impossibility.

Believe me, truly yours,

GEORGE S. INGRAM.

Richmond, Feb. 25, 1869.

THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Oblige me by the insertion in your next issue of the following notice—that the appointment of Mr. John Osens, of Pimlico, as collector of subscriptions for our society in London, is cancelled, and he is therefore no longer authorised to solicit or receive any contributions on its behalf.

The subscriptions now due will be collected by Mr. Frederick Benyon, of Islington.

I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

FRED. TRESTRAIL.

Baptist Mission House, 2, John-street, Bedford-row, London, W.C., March 2, 1869.

THE LANCASHIRE COTTON TRADE.—Very gloomy accounts continue to be received of the condition of the Lancashire cotton-manufacturing districts. A large number of mills are wholly or partially idle, the employers in many cases are becoming embarrassed, and the operatives are reduced to distress by the prolonged absence of work.

THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF MR. FORSTER'S ENDOWED SCHOOLS BILL.—It is likely to influence the future of our own grammar school. There is no town in England where its power would be more felt than in Shrewsbury. It would be productive of a most salutary effect. It would open the school to the humbler class. It would convert it into an institution of some value to the poor. But for this reason it will meet with vigorous opposition from the supporters of the system now in vogue in endowed schools. Those who are interested and prejudiced will raise the cry of "confiscation," "vested interests," and so forth, the remedy for which is a strong manifestation of public opinion.—*Shrewsbury Free Press.*

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, Lord SYDNEY brought up her Majesty's answer to the Address, which was as follows:—

I thank you sincerely for your loyal and dutiful Address. At a time when the enlarged enfranchisement of my people gives additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, I rely with cheerful confidence on the advice and assistance of the House of Lords.

EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.

The Duke of ARGYLL laid a bill on the table for the extension and improvement of education in Scotland. Compulsory parish rating for the support of education had, he explained, been the law of Scotland for generations; but the Scotch towns and cities had long outgrown the parochial system, which worked badly also in many rural parishes, on account of their mere geographical extent. Adequate powers were, moreover, wanted for the erection of school buildings and for the dismissal of inefficient teachers. The Government invited Parliament, in accordance with the recommendation of the Royal Commission, to give discretionary power to a central authority having its habitat in Scotland, and of a representative character. That was the view of the Royal Commission, of which he had been chairman, although members of the commission had various views as to the proper constitution of the body. The landed proprietors, the burghs, the Universities, the schoolmasters themselves, and, lastly, the Crown, were all entitled to be represented. It was therefore proposed that the conveners of counties, the Royal burghs, the Universities, the schoolmasters, and the Crown, should each appoint two members. The introduction into Scotland of the Privy Council educational grants had complicated the dealing with this subject. It had been necessary that, having been introduced in England, they should be extended to Scotland likewise. But serious difficulties had at once arisen. One great inherent defect of the system as applied to Scotland was connected with the denominational character of education in Scotland. Another defect was that the richer the locality the larger the Privy Council grant; so that where more was wanted less was given. The Hebrides and other poor localities had suffered from this. Even in Glasgow itself there had been a glaring inequality in the operation of the system, the richer part—the northern—having engrossed the chief amount of the aid. The Government desired to put an end to this operation of the system in Scotland. Power, therefore, would be given to the board to make a selection of schools, and by consent to throw denominational schools on the rates, under the management of a committee of the ratepayers. After a given date, indeed, it was proposed that there should be no denominational schools. Other provisions of the bill referred to the dealing with school buildings, and particularly to the getting rid of bad schoolmasters. At present, for complete idleness in the schoolmasters, even for drunkenness itself, there was no sufficient remedy. The happiness of whole districts had often been sacrificed to the absurd theory of the schoolmaster's private fee-simple right in his post. In future, on a local requisition, the board would be empowered to dismiss. Regular inspection was also arranged for. Then, further, if this measure should be passed, it was intended to modify the Privy Council Minutes. In the new code the principle of payment by result would not be departed from. But the new code's distinction between classes would be. It was opposed to the spirit of Scotch society to make grants only to the poor. In Scotland, the children of all classes always had met at school. Some greater encouragement than in England would also be given to the higher branches of education. Parochial education in Scotland had never been confined to "the three R's." A third proposed modification was not to make the payment of pupil-teachers dependent on attendance at national schools. Attendance at the Universities would be accepted as equivalent. After reading the schedule which referred to these proposed modifications of the Privy Council Minutes, the Duke considered the reasons which made it possible to propose a scheme of compulsory rating for educational purposes in Scotland, whereas such a proposition would be hopeless as to England. He traced the difference, and the parochial system of education itself, to the impulse originating with John Knox and his fellows, whom he eloquently eulogised. Knox recognised, he said, the principle that education must be compulsory. He acknowledged, nevertheless, that this bill differed from the principles of the Scotch Reformers, so far, at least, as they favoured a system not only national, but denominational. If Scotland were still at one on ecclesiastical matters, he would himself do nothing to denominationalise it. But it was so no longer. Even as it was, it was not proposed to interfere with the religious character of a school against the wish of the managers. No cognisance, indeed, would be taken of the religious teaching, except that no grant would be made unless on condition of the adoption of a very stringent Conscience Clause. However, the practice in Scotland had been even hitherto very liberal, so that this was no very violent innovation. The present bill did not, he admitted, altogether coincide with the opinions of any body in Scotland; but he believed, thoroughly acquainted as he was with the spirit of his countrymen and their love of abstract principles, that it would be accepted in Scotland as a compromise.

The second reading was fixed for March 19th.

Their Lordships adjourned at a quarter past six. On Friday, Lord WESTBURY laid on the table a bill to amend and consolidate the law of bankruptcy, which was also read a first time.

SUPPRESSION OF CRIME.

Lord KIMBERLEY moved the first reading of a bill for the further repression of crime. He sketched the history of previous legislation on the subject, and reviewed the recommendations of the Commission which resulted in the Act of 1864. It was important that it should be known what had been the effect of that statute. He had himself doubted whether any practical system of marks could be devised on which to found commutations of sentences. But although there had been, it was true, too great relaxation in the system when under the control of Sir Joshua Jebb, he was convinced that it had answered well under Colonel Henderson. The value of the work done by the convicts in the three great convict prisons had nearly covered the cost of their maintenance. At Chatham there had been an actual surplus. The police supervision instituted by the act had also been successful. It was intended to develop this. The police supervision had not hindered convicts from gaining an honest livelihood. It had even facilitated it. The want of a central registry and control and of communication between the police authorities in different districts, was the defect of the system as at present established. In legislating now the Government was not actuated by a feeling of panic. Criminal legislation had, as appeared from the statistics of 1867 as compared with 1867, to which he referred, been tolerably successful. There were, however, reasons for further legislation. One was a general reason—viz., that as time went on new means were devised of retarding the progress of crime. A particular reason was the closing of the outlet of transportation. The necessary increase in the number of criminals as their sentences expired called for speedy measures. The criminal classes, numbering 116,000 persons, constituted a great army warring on society, which must, in return, war upon them. The question was what measures of hostility should be adopted. The public was not prepared to adopt Mr. Henry Taylor's suggestion that habitual criminals should be kept imprisoned for life; but men convicted of heinous crimes ought, he thought, to be detained for the full term of their sentences, however old they might have grown in prison. This was necessary for example, although the hope might be extended of release from the public works in the event of long-continued good behaviour. The present bill was based on the principle that the system of police supervision should be extended, and still more, that the burden of proof of honesty of those under supervision should be shifted upon the accused. The accused would have the old safeguards of a public trial, but he would have to rebut the presumption of guilt. A person, for instance, released on a ticket of leave or licence would be liable to be summoned before a magistrate to give an account of his sources of livelihood. There would also be a registry of licences. Any one sentenced to imprisonment for a second felony would be subject to police supervision for seven years, and to a year's imprisonment if found in certain circumstances of suspicion. Other provisions concerned those convicted of felony for the third time, as to whom in future the Judge would not have the option of imprisoning, but must sentence to penal servitude for seven years. The receivers of stolen goods, without whom crime would often be without profit, and who were often more guilty than the thieves themselves, were also considered in the bill. Another class to which it referred was that of vagrants. It would not be necessary in future to prove an overt act, but the Vagrant Acts would apply to any one apprehended in particular circumstances. Finally, the bill gave additional protection to the police against brutal assaults, by empowering the magistrate to impose as much as six months' imprisonment. He proposed to take the second reading of the bill that day week.

Lord SHAPTESBURY particularly approved the proposed provisions as to receivers of stolen goods. Tradesmen of high standing were implicated in this crime. The *onus* of proof ought to be thrown on the receivers.

In the course of the brief discussion which followed there was a general admission of the necessity for stringent legislation and approval of the principles of the Government Bill. A suggestion by Lord GARY that the measure should be sent to a select committee was promptly dismissed, not without some indignation, by Lord SALISBURY and Lord CAIRNS. The subject should, they held, be discussed openly and without delay.

The House sat only for a few minutes on Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ANNUITY-TAX (EDINBURGH).

On Wednesday Mr. M'LAREN, in rising to ask for leave to introduce a bill to abolish the annuity-tax, or ministers' money, in the parish of Canongate within Edinburgh, and to make other provisions respecting the stipend of the minister in that parish, and of the ministers in the city parishes, said that the bill had been so considerably modified from the one which he had had the honour of introducing last year, that he hoped that some of those who had formerly opposed it would now give it their hearty support. He might add that the measure had received the approval of the magistrates and council of Edinburgh, and that among those bodies it had met with only six opponents. Sir G. MONTGOMERY thought that instead of attempting to upset the settlement arrived at by the Act of 1860, the right thing for the hon. gentleman to do would be to introduce a bill to

abolish the rate altogether. Leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. M'MAHON obtained leave to bring in a bill to assimilate the law for the relief of the poor in Ireland to that of England, by substituting a union rating for the present system of electoral divisions.

The committee on the Dumfries election having been appointed, the House adjourned at a quarter to one o'clock.

On Thursday Mr. CHILDERS intimated that he should move the Navy Estimates on Thursday next; and Mr. CARDWELL that he should ask it to go into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates on Monday, the 8th of March. Lord OTTO FITZGERALD, the Comptroller of the Household (wearing his uniform and holding his staff of office), read her Majesty's reply to the Address in answer to the Royal Speech.

THE ADMIRALTY.

In reply to a string of questions from Sir James Elphinstone, Mr. CHILDERS replied that he had reorganised the Board of Admiralty, so that each department in it had a chief as directly responsible to himself as the Controller-General is to the Secretary of State for War, thereby saving some 5,000*l.* a year; that thirty-three clerks had been reduced, thereby saving 7,991*l.* a year, but that they all would receive the compensation fixed by Act 22 Vic., cap. 26, and would be re-employed as vacancies arose; that his total saving in "clerical" expenses was 14,000*l.*, and that as to the dockyards, he had dismissed nobody, though he was about to close Woolwich, transferring the men to other establishments. His predecessors, however, had dismissed 5,409 men. (Cheers.)

ASSESSED RATES.

Mr. GOSCHEN explained his bill for amending the law with respect to rates assessed on occupiers for short terms. Disclaiming at the outset any intention to revive the controversy of 1867, or to disturb the electoral machinery of the Reform Act, he dwelt on the numerous inconveniences produced by the abolition of the compounding system, which in many places had led to illegal arrangements between landlords and tenants with the collusion of the parochial authorities, and in others to excuses on an enormous scale. The difficulty he pointed out arose from this—that a rate was always made in advance—never for less than a quarter of a year—and that the overseers had no legal power to collect rates by instalments, although it was occasionally done by arrangement. The bill, therefore, would go on the principle that in the case of weekly tenements it would be wiser to look rather to the landlord than the tenant as ultimately responsible for the rate. It proposed that the occupier for short terms should continue to be rated, and to have his name on the rate-book; but that he should be at liberty to deduct whatever rates he paid from the rent due or accruing to the landlord. And lest he should be called on to pay a larger proportion of the rate than would be covered by his tenancy, the overseers would be enabled to collect the rate by instalments, with the proviso that no weekly tenant should be called on at one time to pay a larger sum than would amount to two weeks' rent. This would not interfere with voluntary arrangements between landlord and tenant—in fact, it would rather encourage them. The landlord would be compensated for this additional liability by a lower assessment of his houses. Finally, Mr. Goschen explained that the bill would apply to all boroughs, Parliamentary and others.

Mr. GOLDNEY remarked of the bill that it seemed needlessly roundabout, and that the same end might have been attained by rating the landlord and collecting the rates from him directly.

Mr. BRIGHT repeated the oft-narrated hardships of the town of Birmingham under the new system, and expressed a hope that the bill, which offered a fair settlement of an embarrassing difficulty, would be discussed without any party heat.

Mr. LOWTHER promised for the Opposition that it should be considered in a candid spirit, and after some observations from Mr. L. King, Mr. J. Locke, Mr. C. Forster, and Mr. A. Johnston, the bill was brought in.

Mr. R. GURNEY brought in the Married Women's Property Bill, of which Mr. Shaw Lefevre had charge last year, and the bill legalising marriages with a deceased wife's sister was reintroduced by Mr. T. CHAMBERS.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes past six o'clock.

GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

On Friday, in reply to questions, the Government intimated that a bill would be brought in on special and common juries, and perhaps one on trade unions, when the report of the commission has been presented and carefully considered. Legislation on the patent laws and the Irish land question was represented to be impossible this session. Mr. GLADSTONE mentioned a circumstance of some importance, which has somehow escaped notice—that on Thursday night Lord Clarendon introduced a bill to repeal the Aberdeen Act, which was directed to the suppression of the Brazilian slave-trade.

CHARITIES AND POOR-RATES.

Mr. WHEELHOUSE asked whether it was the intention of her Majesty's Government to take any step during the present session fully to exempt public hospitals, infirmaries, dispensaries for the sick, and endowed almshouses, from liability to rating to the relief of the poor.

Mr. GOSCHEN said this was part of a very large matter, which was really larger than appeared from the form of the question. It would be very difficult to confine exemption to the buildings named. Sun-

day-schools had been omitted from the list—(Hear, hear)—then there were endowed schools as well as endowed almshouses, and the question would arise whether the former ought not to be exempted as well as the latter. Consideration would also be claimed for public buildings, municipal buildings, and county buildings. The whole question was exceedingly large and complicated, and it was not the intention of the Government to deal with it this session.

IRISH SEATS.

A proposal by Mr. C. RAIKES to revise the distribution of seats in Ireland, with a view to reducing the number of boroughs and extending the county representation, raised a protest from Mr. M'MAHON, who urged that if any change were made it should rather be the other way. Mr. C. FORSTER was disposed, on the whole, to take the latter view, but deprecated the reopening of the question so soon after the late Reform Act.

RULE OF THE ROAD AT SEA.

Sir J. HAY questioned Mr. BRIGHT about the rule of the road at sea. Admiral SEYMOUR having endorsed Sir John's remarks, Mr. BRIGHT replied that not being a sailor he could not be expected to enter minutely into professional details, but he would read a short memorandum he had drawn up on the subject. The gist of it was that the present rule was deliberately adopted after consultation by all the maritime States; it was simple and precise; and if it was so defective as the two speakers represented, he wondered that during the whole time they were at the Admiralty they should have neglected it.

DOCKYARD REDUCTIONS.

A discussion followed on the reductions in the Government dockyards, in which the members for Portsmouth, Devonport, and Newport took part, appealing to the Government to alleviate the distress occasioned by the number of men lately thrown out of employment. Mr. GRAVES and Mr. CHILDERS explained that the ship-building trade was in a depressed condition generally, and that the distress among the artisans engaged in it was therefore not confined to the dockyard towns or exclusively due to dockyard reductions. Mr. Childers further stated that at Portsmouth the reductions had been effected eight months ago, in the time of the late Government, and were by no means larger than had been made in former years without attracting particular attention. The conditions of the original engagement had been religiously carried out, and every man entitled to a pension or gratuity had received it. He explicitly and positively refused on the part of the Government to take part in a scheme of emigration which some of the speakers had advocated.

In committee of supply a civil service supplemental estimate of 131,844*l.* was voted.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES.

A select committee to inquire into the operation of the Roman Catholic Charities Act and of the Act relating to the Registration of Burials was moved by Mr. NEWDEGATE. He complained that both these Acts were systematically evaded by the Roman Catholic hierarchy, and with his usual solemn earnestness he dilated on the rapid accumulation of property in the hands of the Roman Catholic bishops, who set the law of mortmain at defiance. The Government vouchsafed no reply to the motion, which, on a division, was rejected by 85 to 46.

A first reading was given to bills brought in by Mr. ST. AUBYN to amend the law relating to Devon and Cornwall mines, and the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries; by Mr. SELWYN-IBBETSON, to amend the law for licensing beerhouses; by Mr. SYKES, for the preservation of sea birds; and by Mr. DENMAN, to amend the law of evidence.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to nine o'clock.

On Monday the Speaker took the chair shortly before four o'clock, and the crowded state of the benches, and overflowing galleries, testified to the anxious interest excited by the great business of the night—the introduction of the Irish Church Bill. Long before the Speaker took the chair every seat in the House was retained, and the influx of strangers, "distinguished" and ordinary, was far in excess of the accommodation provided.

Mr. BAUCON gave notice that to-morrow he will move for a select committee to inquire into the present mode of conducting Parliamentary and municipal elections.

THE IRISH ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

Mr. GLADSTONE, who was vehemently cheered by his supporters, proceeded to unfold his plan, prefacing it with a long exordium, in which he glanced rapidly at the previous stages of the question, and answered by anticipation some of the principal objections to his policy. Recalling then the pledges given by those who had taken up the question, he predicated of the bill that it should put an immediate end to the Establishment and the public endowment of the Irish Church, that it should be thorough, but at the same time liberal and indulgent, prompt in its operation, and final in every respect. He divided his description of the bill into three parts—its immediate effect, its effect at a certain time fixed (but not unalterably), at January 1, 1871, and its operation when what he called the process of winding up the affairs of the Irish Church was brought to a close. On the first head the bill provided that the present Ecclesiastical Commission should be at once wound up, and a new

commission appointed for ten years, in which the property of the Irish Church, subject to life interests, would be vested from the time of the passing of the bill. So that, technically and legally, there would be an immediate disendowment of the Irish Church. Disestablishment would be postponed until the 1st of January, 1871. At that date the union between the Churches of England and Ireland would be dissolved, all ecclesiastical corporations would be abolished, the Ecclesiastical Courts would cease, and the ecclesiastical laws would no longer be binding as laws; except that they would be understood to exist as the terms of the voluntary contract between clergy and laity, until they were altered by the governing body of the disestablished Church. In the interval between the passing of the Act and this date of January 1, 1871, and during the reorganisation of the Church, it was proposed that appointments should be made to spiritual offices, but that they should not carry with them the freehold or confer vested interests. Appointments also would be made in the same provisional and temporary manner to vacant bishoprics, but only on the prayer of the bishops to consecrate a particular person to a vacancy; but these appointments, too, would carry with them no vested interests and no rights of peerage. Crown livings, also, in the interval between the two periods would be filled up on the same principles. To assist in the reorganisation of the Church, and to favour the creation of a body which could negotiate on behalf of the Church with the Commissioners, the Convention Act, which prevented the assembling of the clergy and laity of the Church, would be at once repealed; and power would be taken to the Queen in Council to recognise any governing body which the clergy and laity of the disestablished Church might agree on, and which actually represented both; and that body would be incorporated. Assuming that by January 1, 1871, or some other date to be substituted in the bill, this governing body would have been constituted, Mr. Gladstone spent more than an hour in explaining the complicated details of the arrangements for dealing with the Church and its property in its disestablished condition. And first he explained how vested interests would be met. A vested interest he defined to be the title of an incumbent (including in this term bishops and dignitaries as well as beneficed clergy) to receive a certain annuity out of the property of the Church (fees, pew-rents, &c., being put out of the question), in consideration of the performance of a certain duty. The Commissioners would ascertain the amount of each incumbent's income, deducting what he paid for curates; and, so long as he continued to discharge his duties, that income would be paid him; but he might apply to have this commuted into an annuity for life. It was not proposed to interfere compulsorily with the position of the incumbent in relation to his freehold or the incidents of his landlordship, with three exceptions—that his title to the tithe rent-charge would be vested immediately in the Commissioners; that the freehold of churches wholly in ruins would be taken from the incumbent; and that the peerage rights of the Irish bishops would cease at once. The compensation to curates will be of two kinds. What Mr. Gladstone called "transitory curates" will be dealt with on a principle borrowed from the Civil Service Superannuation Act, and will be dismissed with a gratuity, but permanent curates—i.e., those who have been employed in the same parish from January 1, 1869, to January 1, 1871—or have left their employment not from their own free will or misconduct, will be entitled to compensation on the same principle as the incumbents. Mr. Gladstone was also careful to point out that this would be paid by the incumbents. Private endowments would not be touched, and these Mr. Gladstone said would be the only "marketable property" conveyed to the Church. But he limited the term to money contributed from private sources since the year 1660, and pointed out that it would not include churches and glebe-houses. As to churches, wherever the "governing body" made an application, accompanied by a declaration that they meant either to maintain the church for public worship, or to remove it to some more convenient position, it would be handed over to them; but in the case of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and about a dozen other churches partaking of the character of national memorials, the Commissioners would be empowered to allot a moderate sum for their maintenance. Churches not in use, and not capable of being restored for purposes of worship, would be handed over to the Board of Works, with an allocation of funds sufficient for their maintenance. On the knotty point of glebe-houses Mr. Gladstone said he had seen reason to modify his views of last year. They were not marketable property, for though an expenditure on them of 1,200,000*l.* could be traced distinctly, their annual value was only 18,660*l.*, and there was a quarter of a million of building charges on them which the State would have to pay on coming into possession. It was, therefore, proposed to hand over the glebe-houses to the governing body on their paying the building charges, and they would be allowed to purchase a certain amount of glebe land round the houses at a fair valuation. The burial-grounds adjacent to churches would go with the churches, all existing rights being preserved, and other burial-grounds would be handed over to the guardians of the poor. Passing to the mode in which he proposed to deal with the *Regium Donum*

and the Maynooth Grant, amounting together to about 70,000*l.* Mr. Gladstone said that the Presbyterian ministers, recipients of the *Regium Donum*, would be compensated on the same principles as the incumbents of the disestablished Church; and in regard both to the grant to Maynooth and the grants to Presbyterian Colleges—in order to give ample time for the necessary arrangements and to avoid the sudden shock and disappointment to individuals—there would be a valuation of all the interests in these grants at fourteen years' purchase of the capital amount annually voted. This portion of his speech he concluded by an elaborate explanation of a scheme for the final extinction of the tithe rent-charge in forty-five years. Landlords would be allowed, if they chose, to purchase it at twenty-two and a half years' purchase, and if they did not accept the offer they would come under another and a general operation. There would be a compulsory sale to them of the tithe rent-charge, at a rate which would yield 4*½* per cent.; and, on the other side, they would be credited with a loan at 3*½* per cent., payable in instalments in forty-five years. The power of purchase would remain in the hands of the tenants for three years after the passing of the Act, and it was also proposed that the tenants should have a right of pre-emption of all lands by the Commission, and that three-fourths of the purchase money might be left on mortgage, to be liquidated by instalments, making the whole payable in 22 years. While Mr. Gladstone was speaking of tithe rent-charge and perpetuities, the attention of the House somewhat languished; but this proposal for the benefit of the tenants drew a warm cheer from the Ministerial benches below the gangway. The financial results of these operations Mr. Gladstone stated thus:—The tithe rent-charge would yield 9,000,000*l.*; lands and perpetuity rents, 3,250,000*l.*; money, 750,000*l.*—total 13,000,000*l.*—the present value of the property of the Irish Church. Of this the bill would dispose of 8,650,000*l.*—viz.:—Vested interests of incumbents, 4,900,000*l.*; curates, 800,000*l.*; lay compensation, 900,000*l.*; private endowments, 600,000*l.*; building charges, 250,000*l.*; commutation of Maynooth Grant and the *Regium Donum* 1,100,000*l.*, and expenses of the Commission, 200,000*l.* Consequently there would remain a surplus of between 7,000,000*l.*, or 8,000,000*l.*; and Mr. Gladstone roused the flagging attention of the House by the interesting question,—"What shall we do with it?" Assuming, as principles written in "letters of iron," that this surplus must be applied to Irish purposes, and purposes not ecclesiastical, the Prime Minister discussed and rejected the various proposals for its appropriation to religion, education, public works, railways, and the relief of the poor; and amid almost breathless attention, announced, by reading the preamble of the bill, that it was proposed to devote it "to the relief of inevitable calamity and suffering." The feeling with which this announcement was received appeared to be one of general surprise and disappointment, but as the right hon. gentleman dwelt upon the claims which lunatics, the deaf and dumb, the blind, idiots, &c., have upon the public for a larger measure of assistance and instruction than can be given under the Poor Law, and the sufferings which are occasioned to small occupiers by the levying of the county cess for the maintenance, even in an imperfect form, of county asylums, infirmaries, industrial schools, and other similar institutions—the annual charge for which amounts to 311,000*l.*—more sympathy seemed excited for his proposal; and his earnest appeal for a full consideration of what he believed would prove a good plan was responded to by a hearty cheer. The peroration of Mr. Gladstone's address (which occupied three hours and twenty minutes in delivery) was a fine specimen of lofty and manly eloquence, and was delivered in an animated and impressive manner, free from any tincture of pomposity or inappropriate solemnity. It was as follows:—

We are undoubtedly asking an educated, highly respected, and generally pious and zealous body of clergymen to undergo a great transition; we are asking a powerful and intelligent minority of the laity in Ireland, in connection with the Established Church, to abate a great part of the exceptional privileges they have enjoyed; but I do not feel that in making this demand upon them we are asking to inflict an injury. I do not believe they are exclusively or even mainly responsible for the errors of English policy towards Ireland; I am quite certain that in many vital respects they have suffered by it; I believe that the free air they will breathe under a system of equality and justice, giving scope for the development of their great energies, with all the powers of property and intelligence they will bring to bear, will make that Ireland which they love a country for them not less enviable and not less beloved in the future than it has been in the past. (Cheers.) As respects the Church, I admit it is the case almost without exception. I don't know in what country so great a change, so great a transition, has been proposed for the ministers of a religious communion who have enjoyed for many ages the preferred position of an Established Church. I can well understand that to many in the Irish Establishment such a change appears to be nothing less than ruin and destruction; from the height on which they now stand the future is to them an abyss, and their fears recall the words used in "King Lear," when Edgar endeavours to persuade Gloucester that he has fallen over the cliffs of Dover, and says:—

Ten masts at each make not the altitude
Which thou hast perpendicularly fell;
Thy life's a miracle.

And yet but a little while after the old man is relieved from his delusion, and finds he has not fallen at all. (Cheers.) So I trust that when, instead of the fictitious and adventitious aid on which we have too long taught the Irish Establishment to lean, it should come to place its trust in its own resources, in its own great mission—(Hear)—in all that it can draw from the energy of its

ministers and its members, and the high hopes and promises of the Gospel that it teaches, it will find that it has entered upon a new era of existence—an era bright with hope and potent for good. (Hear, hear.) At any rate, I think the day has certainly come when an end is finally to be put to that union, not between the Church and religious association, but between the Establishment and the State, which was commenced under circumstances little auspicious, and has endured to be a source of unhappiness to Ireland, and of discredit and scandal to England. This measure is in every sense a great measure—great in its principles, great in the multitude of its dry, technical, but interesting detail, and great as a testing measure; for it will show for one and all of us of what metal we are made. (Hear, hear.) Upon us all it brings a great responsibility. We upon this bench are especially chargeable—nay, deeply guilty, if we have either dishonestly or even prematurely or unwisely challenged so gigantic an issue. I know well the punishments that follow rashness in public affairs, and that ought to fall upon those men, those Phantoms of politics, who, with hands unequal to the task, attempt to guide the chariot of the sun. But the responsibility passes beyond us and rests on every man who has to take part in the discussion and decision upon this bill. Every man approaches the discussion under the most solemn obligations to raise the level of his vision and expand its scope in proportion with the greatness of the matter in hand. The working of our constitutional government itself is upon its trial, for I do not believe there ever was a time when the wheels of legislative machinery were set in motion under conditions of peace and order and constitutional regularity to deal with a question greater or more profound. And more especially, Sir, is the credit and fame of this great assembly involved; this assembly, which has inherited through many ages the accumulated honours of brilliant triumphs, of peaceful but courageous legislation, is now called upon to address itself to a task which would, indeed, have demanded all the best energies of the very best among your fathers and your ancestors. I believe it will prove to be worthy of the task. Should it fail, even the fame of the House of Commons will suffer disparagement; should it succeed, even that fame, I venture to say, will receive no small, no insensible addition. I must not ask gentlemen opposite to concur in this view, emboldened as I am by the kindness they have shown me in listening with patience to a statement which could not have been other than tedious; but I pray them to bear with me for a moment while, for myself and my colleagues, I say we are sanguine of the issue. (Hear, hear.) We believe, and for my part I am deeply convinced, that when the final consummation shall arrive, and when the words are spoken that shall give the force of law to the work embodied in this measure—the work of peace and justice—those words will be echoed upon every shore where the name of Ireland or the name of Great Britain has been heard, and the answer to them will come back in the approving shout of civilised mankind. (The right hon. gentleman resumed his seat amid loud and continued cheering, after having formally moved for leave to bring in the bill.)

Mr. DISRAELI followed immediately, and declared, with much emphasis, that the opinion of the Opposition remained unchanged, that disestablishment was a political error, and disendowment—especially when accompanied by secularisation—mere and sheer confiscation. Under ordinary circumstances he should have opposed the introduction of the bill, but, looking to the verdict of the country at the general election, which he interpreted to mean that Mr. Gladstone should have an opportunity of dealing with the question of the Irish Church, and to the action of the late Government on that verdict, Mr. Gladstone ought not, in fairness, to be precluded from submitting his policy to the House. He advised his friends, therefore, not to oppose the motion, but he pressed for a delay of three weeks before the second reading.

Mr. GLADSTONE declined to postpone it so long, and ultimately the second reading was fixed for Thursday fortnight, with which arrangement Mr. DISRAELI expressed himself satisfied.

The resolution was then agreed to, and the House resumed.

Mr. GLADSTONE: I have to signify that her Majesty has been pleased to place at the disposal of Parliament, for the purposes of the bill, her interest in the archbishoprics, bishoprics, and other ecclesiastical dignities and benefices in Ireland.

The SPEAKER then put the question that leave be given to bring in the bill.

Sir F. HAYGATE asked for some explanation with respect to the funds said to be in the hands of the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the purpose of carrying out some of the arrangements contemplated by the Prime Minister.

Mr. HUNT said he did not understand, from the statement of the right hon. gentleman, whether the private endowments were to be put into the hands of what was called the Church body or were to be localised.

Mr. GLADSTONE: With respect to the private endowments, the expression that I used was that they would pass into the hands of the Church body; but it will remain entirely open for consideration whether some arrangements should not be made by which they would pass into the hands of some local authority. It is impossible for us at present to undertake to be acquainted with the terms of all these endowments; but as the body is to be representative I assume that all local interests will be sufficiently represented. That is a matter which I assume will be settled among the members of the disestablished Church in a way which will be most to their interest, and of course we should be very glad to enter into their views. With respect to the question of the hon. baronet, the sum of 1,100,000*l.* which I described as going in satisfaction of the claims of the Presbyterians and Maynooth, I likewise enumerated among the charges on the Church Fund. As to the funds in the hands of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, I introduced that topic only with reference to the

facility that these funds would give us for making advances. Of course that has no bearing on the sources whence the funds would ultimately come. There was one point which I forgot to mention in my speech, and that is that there will be introduced into the bill in committee some one clause to enable the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to lend, and the Temporalities Commissioners to borrow, for the purpose of arranging these transactions.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill, which was afterwards brought up by Mr. Dodson and read the first time, the second reading being fixed for Thursday, the 18th inst.

Some unimportant bills were brought in and the House adjourned at 25 minutes to 9 o'clock.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur de l'Armée* publishes a remarkable article, which, though entitled, "The Disarmament of France," is an apology for keeping up the army and using it. It states that it can have no confidence in universal peace as long as people have different interests and speak different tongues, and the writer accuses "education, which has penetrated everywhere, of upsetting all the ideas of the age."

Without war (it says) nations become feeble and depraved. Where the soldier is wanting the man of money is to be found, and, in reality, speculators are the persons who most suffer by war. The article terminates thus:—

France has no greedy ambition, and desires neither to trouble order nor the repose of Europe, but she will not disarm. Her weapons are improved, her arsenals are full, her reserves are drilled, her strong places are in good order, and the Garde Mobile is being organised. Her glory is in the renown of her arms; she will never forget what she owes to her valiant troops, and she will maintain that rank in Europe which her soldiers have gained for her. Do not talk of sheathing the sword; the sword is the arm of honour and duty, but there is an arm more dangerous still, and that arm, Utopists, is your pen.

M. Lamartine died on Sunday night. He had a paralytic stroke a short time since, and the last reports of his condition showed that there was no hope of recovery. The prominent part M. de Lamartine took in political affairs in 1848 made his name familiar then throughout the world, but it has been rarely heard of since except in connection with his various literary enterprises. He retired into private life, in fact, in 1851, after the *Coup d'Etat*. M. de Lamartine was seventy-nine years of age, having been born in 1790.

The death is also announced from Paris of M. Troplong, the President of the French Senate, who had for some days been in a very critical state.

SPAIN.

A resolution, thanking the Provisional Government and passing a vote of confidence, was carried on Thursday in the Cortes by 180 against 62, after which Serrano delivered a speech, which was received with immense cheering from the Opposition. He insisted upon the fact that it was impossible for him to abuse the power conferred upon him, as none of the prerogatives of supreme power, such as the right of veto, the right of making peace or war, had been granted him. He added:—

Were the Assembly to offer me those prerogatives I should refuse them. I desire to walk hand-in-hand with the Cortes, the minority acting as the legitimate censor of the Ministry, and the majority as its sovereign judge. I shall remain at my post as long as may be necessary, with no care but for the welfare of the nation, with no ambition but that of withdrawing into private life after having accomplished my duty to my country. (Applause.)

Senor Sorni then spoke, stating that the minority had heard with satisfaction the speech just delivered by Marshal Serrano.

The latter subsequently communicated to the House a telegram from Cuba, in which General Dulce announces that he has 8,000,000 dollars towards the expenses of the war, and that this sum will be sufficient to put down the insurrection, which is now on the decline.

It is said that Senor Olozaga will take his seat in the Cortes as the especial orator and champion of Catholic Unity. He is the Marplot of the revolution in everything that concerns freedom of religion. The only good feature about him is his intense hatred of the Bourbons. Petitions against freedom of worship are being signed in some of the Madrid churches, the Pope having sent his special blessing to those who do so. Pastor Ruet's Protestant services were crammed again on Sunday week, and hundreds were turned away for want of room.

Both Carlists and Republicans are giving trouble in Spain. There has been a Socialist outbreak at Barcelona, which is said to have been put down by the volunteers of liberty, who took thirty-three prisoners. In the neighbourhood of Barcelona there have been Carlist disturbances, the movers in which have also (we are told) been defeated by the volunteers. In consequences of these events the intended amnesty for political offences has been postponed.

AMERICA.

The Constitutional Amendment enacting negro suffrage in the United States has passed both Houses of Congress, and now goes to the State Legislatures for ratification.

A Washington telegram of Saturday reports that the Senate has passed by thirty votes against sixteen General Schenck's Finance Bill, amended. The bill now declares that all the national obligations shall

be payable in coin, unless the law under which they were issued specifies payment in currency. The bill also legalises contracts containing special provisions for payments to be made in gold. The Senate rejected the article of the bill which proposed to prohibit the payment of bonds before maturity, unless currency should have previously been rendered convertible into coin at par. The bill returns to the House of Representatives.

Both Houses of Congress have passed the Copper Tariff Bill, over President Johnson's veto.

The Alabama Claims Treaty, it is now understood, will not be considered by the Senate until after the beginning of the Forty-first Congress on the 4th inst.

The *New York Times* of the 17th ult. says that, according to a Washington correspondent, Mr. Reverdy Johnson will shortly avail himself of a leave of absence granted to him by Mr. Seward, and return to the United States.

The remains of John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln, were removed on the 15th ult. from Washington to Baltimore, having been given up by the United States Government to the relatives of the deceased.

INDIA.

Ameer Sher Ali made a triumphant entry into Cabul on the 16th of January, amid great rejoicings. The subsidy to be given to him by the Indian Government will amount to twelve lacs of rupees and 4,000 stand of arms. The Viceroy will probably visit the North-West frontier for the purpose of meeting the Ameer before proceeding to Simla.

Another fall of rain in the Punjab and the North-West Provinces has saved much cultivation from failure.

A telegram from Cachar states that the Government has taken measures to prevent further depredations by the hill tribes, and is about to send troops to pursue them.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* says that socially Lord Mayo is likely to be very popular, whatever his administrative ability may prove to be. The style of "the Castle" reigns in Government House, and many are delighted with the change from the plainness and simplicity of the late régime. Sir Richard Temple, the same writer says, is likely to make his financial statement much earlier than usual, all the estimates having been sent in by the 31st of December last. "Thus, if Parliament had the slightest interest in the collection and expenditure of a revenue of fifty millions sterling, the Duke of Argyll might lay the Indian budget on the table before Easter. So far as the facts show at present, there will be a surplus at the close of this year of about 200,000. There will be, at least, no deficit. But the famine and opium will grievously affect next year's revenue, and reproductive works will be so extensively carried on that a large loan is certain to be raised, and, it is feared here, in England."

NEW ZEALAND.

In the House of Lords on Friday, Earl Granville said a telegram had just been received at the Colonial Office from the Governor of New Zealand. It was dated the 18th of January, and was to the following effect. A telegram had been received from Melbourne stating that the war in New Zealand was considered to be at an end, but he could not, of course, say how far this latter opinion was to be relied on:—"Nagatapa, the main stronghold of the rebels who perpetrated the Poverty Bay massacre, was captured by the Colonial Forces under Colonel Whitmore, on the 6th of January. Our loss did not exceed twenty-two in killed and wounded, while that of the rebels in killed, wounded, and prisoners, amounted to about 200. This success has produced a salutary effect."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The North German Parliament is to assemble on the 4th of March, a decree to that effect having been issued by the King of Prussia.

The authorities of Mr. Goldwin Smith's University at Ithaca, having discussed the question of admitting women, have decided not to do so.

Cold and tepid water baths for cattle in France are creeping into favour as therapeutic agents to the treatment of inflammatory diseases.

The pork disease, *trichina spiralis*, has again broken out in New York, and two fatal cases are reported. Considerable alarm has been caused by the reappearance of the disease.

The parliamentary committee at Sydney, New South Wales, appointed to inquire into the alleged Fenian organisation, has disapproved the existence of any conspiracy in the colony.

The *Italia* of Naples announces that at Pompeii there have just been discovered two marble busts—one of Pompey and the other of Brutus. They are both of fine execution, and have been placed in the National Museum.

The Rev. Joshua Leavitt, D.D., a clergyman of New York, is the winner of the gold medal of the Cobden Club in the last annual essay competition on the best way of evolving improved political and commercial relations between Great Britain and the United States.

THE PAPAL COUNCIL.—There are strong rumours that in calling together the great Ecumenical Council the Pope will find he has brought a hornet's nest about his ears. It is said that not only several of the French bishops, but some from other countries, mean to raise a vigorous protest against the monopoly of the great prizes of Rome by Italians.

THE LAST CONFLICT IN CHINA.—A telegram of China news, dated Hong Kong, the 7th of February,

brings word that the inhabitants of the villages near Swatow who attacked the crew of the British gun-boat Grasshopper have been punished. Eighty-eight natives were killed or wounded. Three English officers were wounded, but not seriously. The villages have been destroyed, and the force has returned.

THE VELOCIPED MANIA IN AMERICA.—A Providence paper announces that a rope-walker will begin on the 1st of June the feat of propelling a velocipede 3,000 miles in thirty days, averaging 100 miles a day, for a wager of 5,000 dollars. During the trip he is to ride the velocipede 160 miles in twenty-four hours, and only one trial will be allowed.—*New York Times*, Feb. 14. It is reported that two gentlemen of this city are to ride a velocipede race from here to Chicago for a wager of 1,500 dollars a side. No time is fixed as yet within which the feat is to be accomplished.—*New York Times*, Feb. 16.

MORE PRISONERS IN ABYSSINIA.—The letter of "An Armenian" in the *Times* brings to light the fact that Archbishop Isaac and his companions who went to Abyssinia to intercede for our prisoners are themselves captives. "The account of their condition is harrowing in the extreme. . . . After nearly two years of hardships and privations in a country like Abyssinia, and among a people, as it would seem, so heathenish and ungrateful, where reverence and gratitude would have been expected for the many and continued acts of kindness shown them by our countrymen in Jerusalem, we hear of our beloved and venerable Archbishop being subjected to tyranny and indignities, and suffering from want even of the common necessities of life. It seems strange, indeed, that when the English were masters of Abyssinia, and a word from the commander would have sufficed to restore them to liberty, no measures were taken to that end, for they certainly were aware of their detention by Wakschom Gabazay, one of the rebel chiefs."

THE POLITICIAN AND HIS "FRIEND."—The *Gaulois* tells a capital story of what befel Anthony Thourret, who was exiled in Belgium after the *Coup d'Etat*. One gloomy November morning, whilst pacing the pier at Ostend, Thourret fell in with a nice-looking young man—very thinly clad, and who seemed half-starved. He got into conversation with him, took his word for granted that he, too, was a French exile—just arrived by the London boat, without a penny in his pocket. Anthony Thourret was a maniac in politics, but personally was a burly, good-humoured, large-hearted Rabelaisian sort of fellow. He took pity on the poor devil, took a room for him at his hotel, and got up a little subscription among the refugees to enable him to live. In exchange for his kindness the *protege* acted as secretary for the little band of refugees. Presently he sickened and died. Thourret had him buried, and went the length of making a speech over his grave. On going back to the hotel the very small valise of the dead man was brought into his room. Thourret opened it to see if the deceased had any friends to be communicated with, and then discovered proof that he was a *mouchard* specially delegated to watch him!

MASSACHUSETTS STATE PRISON.—The governor of the State Prison of Massachusetts (at Charlestown, near Boston) has forwarded to Mr. William Tallack, secretary of the Howard Association, London, some very interesting reports of the institution (up to Feb. 1869), which are well worth the attention of the public on this side the Atlantic, as proving the reformatory effects of remunerative prison labour. The Massachusetts prison contains 558 convicts, under the care of Mr. Gideon Haynes. These are confined at night in separate cells, but are employed during the day in silent congregated labour. The prison foundry occupies 92 of the inmates, whip-making 68, the lamp factory 58, the iron-bedstead shop 49, brush-making 32, and so on. The governor reports financially as follows:—Total prison expenses in 1868, 21,798; total receipts from prison labour, 27,128; receipts from other sources, 200; clear profit during 1868, 5,529. (27,646 dollars); profit during 1867, 4,469. Hence a clear profit of 10,000. In cash has accrued to Massachusetts, in two years, from the prison, after paying all costs and salaries. Mr. Haynes states: "This result has not been obtained by a change in the quantity or quality of food or clothing, or reduction of officers (their number and pay having both been increased), or a relaxation of the discipline, for an examination will show a marked improvement in each department." Yet pecuniary profit is not the primary object, but rather reformation and the prevention of crime after leaving the prison; for, as Mr. Haynes remarks, "it is certainly desirable that the institution should pay its expenses; but that should be a secondary consideration, and ought not to interfere with the safety of the officers or the reformation of the convicts—matters of more importance than dollars and cents." The average earnings of English prisoners are 2s. per annum, or about 1jd. per day.

FEMALE EDUCATION IN INDIA.—A native girls' school examination has recently taken place in the native chapel, Royapettah, Madras. Lady Napier, the wife of the Governor of Madras, presided on the occasion, and a considerable number of ladies and gentlemen, European and native, witnessed the interesting scene. The native girls attending the schools are three hundred in number, and, with few exceptions, were all present on the occasion; the caste girls being arrayed in their best clothes and adorned with jewels, gave the assembly a gay appearance. One of the schools under examination has been carried on for twenty years, and in the course of that time has sent out many well-educated girls, now wives and mothers, and several who are now employed as teachers in the school, and other-

wise as instructors of their own sex. The caste girls' school has been formed more recently, and is only a specimen of many schools of the same character which are in existence in the Madras Presidency, the prejudices of the natives against female education having in many cases been entirely removed, and the British residents, with the missionaries, taking advantage of the happy change by opening schools wherever practicable. The Royapettah caste day-school for girls has an average attendance of one hundred, having won the confidence of all classes. A few Brahmin girls are among the pupils. Others are the daughters of Government officials in good position, and the remainder belong chiefly to the families of well-to-do tradesmen. On the occasion referred to the first classes were examined in Scripture and geography. A local paper says:—"The facility with which these bright girls showed a number of countries and places on the map fairly surprised us." After the examination Lady Napier distributed the prizes, and the interesting proceedings were concluded with singing and prayer by the Rev. B. O. Deane, chaplain of Blacktown. The table was covered with specimens of plain and ornamental needlework, highly creditable to the girls. The school is in the hands of the Wesleyan Mission, and in calling attention to the examination in the *Daily News*, Dr. Hoole says the attention of the missionary societies has always been directed to the promotion of female education in the East. Seven years ago it was announced that there were eighteen thousand native females in the schools in India and Ceylon; the number is now ten times that amount, and is constantly on the increase.

THE MARRIAGE OF PRIESTS.—The Judges of the Court of Appeal at Naples have published their decision on the important case which was submitted to them last Wednesday. Involving as it did the question of the perfect independence of the State, of the Church, and of the position of a priest in presence of the civil law, the decision was looked for with much eagerness, but with little doubt. The Civil Tribunal of Salerno, on June 26, 1868, had decided that a priest was always a priest, before whatever Court he presented himself, and was bound by the obligations he had assumed in that character. The Court of Appeal in Naples cancels that sentence; declares to be inadmissible the opposition which was made to the celebration of matrimony between Signor Luigi Trigilia and Signora Marianna Montefusco, and directs that the ceremony shall be proceeded with according to the law. This decision of so high a Court as that of the Court of Appeal at Naples is of more than local importance, and will no doubt be cited as a precedent in all similar cases. It is, however, nothing more than the logical consequence of a Free Church in a Free State; by the civil code all citizens are placed on the same level. It is asserted at Naples that one of the subjects to be submitted to the consideration of the Ecumenical Council is the marriage of priests; but, whether it be so or not, the universal protest against the demoralising influence of ecclesiastical celibacy, together with the decisions of the Italian Courts and the practice of many priests, will sooner or later necessitate the repeal of a regulation which, according to the Roman Catholic Church itself, has not the shadow of a Divine obligation. Four Courts of Appeal have now decided the legality of the marriage of priests—those of Genoa, Palermo, Trani, and Naples; but it is to be observed that whereas in the three first-named tribunals such marriages were rather condoned, having been already completed, in that of Naples the principle was established before the marriages were solemnised, and orders were issued to proceed with the necessary civil rites. Another feature, too, in all such cases of matrimony hitherto, is that the parties (although a priest is always a priest) had in most cases abjured their religion, and certainly had previously ceased to exercise the functions of their office. In the present case it is a priest in full connection with his Church who has obtained a favourable decision; and with the sanction of the civil law of Italy a man in the distinctive robes of a priest may take his wife under his arm and parade the esplanade of Salerno or the streets of Naples.

THE CONVENT CASE.

The remarkable trial of Saurin v. Star and another, in the Court of Queen's Bench, ended on Friday, the twentieth day. Mr. Mellish having been heard in support of the respondents' case on Wednesday, Sir J. Coleridge (the Solicitor-General) replied in a most eloquent address, which was begun on the same day, and concluded on Thursday. There was a good deal of applause when he sat down, which was instantly checked by the presiding judge.

On Friday Chief Justice Cockburn summed up the case, which lasted from ten a.m. to five p.m. The court was crammed, and there was a great crowd outside throughout the day. Respecting the audience and the principal dramatic persons, the *Telegraph* says:—

As a consequence partially of the admission by favour system, the feminine element predominated in the audience. The galleries were filled with ladies; while in the body of the court, if you except the barristers, there were at least four ladies to one gentleman. It was significant, also, that the female spectators were of a very different class from the women who are wont to be seen in courts of law. There were any number of seal-skin mantles, of gauze bonnets, satins, and furs; crosses dangled from many necks, and black-head rosary-looking necklaces were seen dangling about the folds of many dresses. Judging from the smiles and sparkling glances with which every comment of the Chief Justice in favour of the defendants was received by the majority of the ladies, it appeared that the sympathies of the audience

were with the sisterhood; and the "idle cries of an unthinking populace outside" had their counterpart in the equally unintelligent manifestations of partisanship from the crowd within. As a proof of the extent to which the audience was a selected one, it is enough to say that the same persons were present, with few exceptions, both on Friday and the day before.

Miss Saurin was almost the first of the persons directly interested in the action to enter the court. As on former occasions, her dress was such as to screen her entirely from public view. An old-fashioned deep poke bonnet, a long, thick, black veil, a shapeless serge dress, hanging in baggy folds, constitute a disguise more effectual than any domino. During the whole of the long day's weary trial, the figure sat motionless, with the head bowed down, and the covered hands folded as if screwed together. Every now and then there might be seen a little tremor in the folds across her knees, as though the fingers were twitching nervously; but, otherwise, there was no sign of life. On Miss Saurin's right sat a bright, good-looking Irish girl, whose bonnet and white feather, bright red cheeks, and gay-coloured dress, contrasted strangely with the black figure by her side. On Miss Saurin's left was Father Mathews—a hale, stout, shrewd, kindly-looking old man—the sort of priest that Charles Reade depicted as Father Francis in "Griffith Gaunt."

The Saurin party were seated to the left of the judge, in the well between the counsel's seat and the judicial bench, and on his right were the nuns. There were five of them in court when the proceedings opened. Mrs. Star and Mrs. Kennedy sat one at each end of the row; the other sisters being Mrs. Neligan, Mrs. Kerr, and Mrs. M'Keon. They all wore the regular Sister of Mercy garb—the black dresses, white bibs and tuckers, and white linen bands across their foreheads; and they looked strangely out of place in a court of justice. They spoke but little to each other, counted their beads from time to time, and had breviaries open on their knees. They followed the summing-up attentively; and the eyes of one of the sisterhood were quite bright enough to have influenced a susceptible advocate in favour of her cause. Miss Saurin's father and mother were seated throughout the day in one of the gallery lodges overlooking the court. Canon Wallace and Dr. Porter, conspicuous by their clerical dress, sat among the barristers.

The Lord Chief Justice, after some preliminary remarks relative to the nature of the case before the jury, said he believed he was addressing twelve gentlemen who belonged to the great Protestant communion, but although they might regard the objects of convent life with dislike, whatever they might think of the withdrawal of women from those functions of life on which in the main human happiness rested—of that attempt to obliterate human interests and chill human affections—of that yielding up of woman's life to those minute trivialities and petty observances which had been detailed—however they might regard all this as opposed to the voice of nature—with all such considerations the jury had nothing whatever to do. This was not a case of a Protestant parent coming into court to complain that his child had been inveigled into a convent: they were dealing with the complaint of one whose grievance was that his child was not allowed to live there. And here he must pause to declare that the language of the Solicitor-General in reference to convent life had positively startled him, remembering that he was the advocate of a client who far from deprecating convent life, openly and persistently avowed that her dearest object on earth was to continue to reside within the walls of a convent. Passing from that, his lordship's final direction to the jury under this head was that, if they were to try the case properly, they must try it as if they were twelve right-minded Roman Catholics. They could not otherwise do justice. Next addressing himself to the pleadings, his lordship said the substantial defence to the main heads of complaint was embraced under the legal maxim, *Volenti non fit injuria*. *By concession* up to the moment of Miss Saurin's deposition as a member of the community, she had no right to any property. Subsequently to that, although still remaining in the convent, her right might have revived. He was, however, very glad to hear the Solicitor-General declare that it was not to be contended that the sum paid into court was not amply sufficient to cover the head of damages. But he owned he was not a little pained that the charge of assault was to be insisted upon. The only foundation for the charge was that when Miss Saurin did not take off her clothes with sufficient celerity, Mrs. Star and Mrs. Kennedy rudely tore them from her. One shilling damages would amply compensate such a wrong. At the same time the defendants directly contradicted the evidence under this head. As to the imprisonment, it was beyond all question that there had been none until long after the depositions had gone before the bishop, which had produced the final conclusion in the bishop's mind that the plaintiff should leave the convent. The real gravamen of the complaint, and that on which the plaintiff must have a verdict—or she must fail altogether—was the charge of conspiracy. In order to assist the jury to arrive at the just conclusion upon that head, it would be necessary, said his lordship, to review the whole case. To that end he would divide the history into five epochs, commencing with the earliest years of the plaintiff's conventual life, and terminating with her departure from the institution at Hull. The whole history extended over no less than fifteen years. He began thus early for this reason. If from the very first Miss Saurin was found setting at naught the rules of convent life, and defying the orders of her superiors; or if, on the other hand, the defendants were found from the commencement showing signs of being actuated by base and sinister objects in their relations with the plaintiff, either alternative must have a most important influence upon their ultimate conclusions. And now he approached what was stated to be the origin of the ill-treatment which Miss Saurin had experienced at the hands of the de-

fendants. Miss Saurin ascribed it to her refusal to disclose to Mrs. Starr what had passed between her and her confessor in confession. And here again he must pause to express how startled he was to find how the Solicitor-General had dealt with this cardinal point in the case. Miss Saurin's statement could have had but one interpretation, and yet the Solicitor-General did not hesitate to give that interpretation the go-by. His lordship declared with indignation that neither he nor the jury could permit such playing fast and loose with the case. Miss Saurin had made a most odious charge. If she succeeded in establishing its truth, she had saddled upon Mrs. Star conduct the most detestable. On the other hand, had she invented this story for the purpose of preventing the defendants travelling back, and unveiling the former years of her convent career? The jury would remember what had been said of that career—how, even in those early days in Bagot-street, the plaintiff used to be found in tears, how it used to be said how silly of her it was to remain an inmate of the convent. That Miss Saurin was not quite happy, and that she showed symptoms of discontent whilst at Bagot-street, was abundantly plain; it was even in evidence that her parents had expressed their dissatisfaction at the mode in which she was treated at this time. The parents seem to have had high notions of their daughter's rights— notions utterly at variance with the interpretation put upon their rules by the superiors of the convent. But, now, was Miss Saurin's statement correct that her unwillingness to disclose what passed between her and her confessor was the origin of her troubles? Most properly and most forcibly had Mr. Mellish dwelt upon the fact that for the first time at this trial was anything heard of this complaint. No where could a trace of any such complaint be found up to then. In all her interviews with Father Mathews, in all her interviews with her parents, in any one of her letters, had anything ever been heard of it. Was it not incredible that, if she had been so dealt with, she would not have disclosed treatment so odious? Well, if the jury did not believe this part of the plaintiff's evidence her case started most inauspiciously. If untrue, the plaintiff's story, said his lordship, was simply abominable. It was not for him to question the sincerity of the Rev. Mr. Mathews; but here he could not help regretting that that rev. gentleman had not taken a course which would have avoided a most painful issue, and spared that court a most tedious investigation. It was plain beyond all question that this lady had got to be on such terms with the rest of the community that it was utterly impossible that she and they could hope to live happily together. The Rev. Mr. Mathews was thereupon entreated to remove his niece to another convent, but he obstinately and pertinaciously refused to do so. This, to say the least, was a mistake of the gravest character. Let them remember that it was beyond all doubt that the dowry received with Miss Saurin would have been returned at any moment. But it was equally plain that the poor bishop had behaved with great weakness, and that his earliest investigation was most ineffectual. No doubt he found himself in a position of difficulty; and thereupon his conclusion was to act upon the rule that when things were going wrong they had better be left to right themselves. The poor bishop's conduct could only be ascribed to a weakness which was greatly to be regretted. His lordship then addressed himself seriatim to the specific details of the ill-treatment of which Miss Saurin complained. From the commencement to the end of his long address, the judge charged dead in favour of the defendants; and after the first two hours the jury's attention obviously began to slacken. More than once Sir Alexander apologised to the jury for the length of his charge, on the plea that he was bound to mitigate the impression which must have been produced on their minds by the eloquence of the Solicitor-General; and, in fact, the address was in substance an exceedingly able reply to Sir John Coleridge's speech. He explained away the damaging allusions to Miss Saurin's impropriety of behaviour in the depositions of the nuns sent to the bishop; suggested that the absence of the Jesuit brother could best be accounted for by his fear of injuring his sister's cause; dwelt with emphasis on the inconsistency between Sister Scholastica's evidence and the insinuations conveyed by her brother's letter; and, in conclusion, made an earnest and eloquent appeal to the jury to decide the case dispassionately:—

The case, he said, is your hands. All I ask of you is that you allow no prejudices to influence you or your judgment. The current of popular feeling, the echoes of which have been heard within these walls, ought to find no entrance here. The cries of an unthinking populace ought to find no response in the breasts of twelve honest and intelligent men, who have come to discharge, and will discharge, one of the most solemn duties men can be called upon to discharge, only according to their right sense of truth and the dictates of their unfettered consciences. All I ask you is to hold, as I in my province have endeavoured to hold, the scales of justice equal and even, and, having so adjusted them—as right, and truth, and justice require—let them incline the one way or the other.

The jury retired to consider their verdict, and were absent from court for more than two hours. On their return they delivered a verdict for the plaintiff on the counts for conspiracy and libel, for £600, including, however, the 300% the amount of the dowry—so that the net amount of the verdict is 200%. They found for the defendants on the minor counts. The moment the verdict for the plaintiff was known it was communicated to the multitude outside, and a loud cheer was heard reverberating through Westminster Hall.

The Lord Chief Justice made no comment of approval or disapproval, but thanked the jury for

their courteous attention, and expressed his regret at the inadequacy of the remuneration they would receive for their services. Then, with a few civil words to the foreman, the learned judge quitted the court, the crowd dispersed, and the great Saurin case was at an end.

The jurymen who sat through twenty days of the nunnery action which has just been concluded in the Court of Queen's Bench each received one guinea only for the time devoted to the suit.

The *Times* says that Mrs. Star and the lady whom the jury have found to have conspired with her against the plaintiff are liable to costs, which will probably exceed anything in the annals of litigation, and the plaintiff, even if she be able to recover from them, will be obliged to bear the considerable margin of expense which lies between the taxed costs and the disbursements which she and her friends have actually made.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

BRADFORD.

The new writ will, it is expected, be issued to-morrow (Thursday) evening, and the nomination take place on Tuesday next. The delay is owing to the time consumed in printing the evidence taken at the late election trial. The *Bradford Observer* says: "It is a sore trial to many an honest voter to have to wait, but it can't be helped; and perhaps that which is intended for evil may turn out for good."

In the meantime (says the *Daily News*) the friends of both candidates—Mr. Miall and Mr. Thompson—are vigorously engaged in prosecuting their canvass. The movements of each are indicated in the holding of ward meetings almost nightly for the advocacy of the claims of the candidates. In the personal absence of Mr. Miall, his claims are at these meetings set forth by his principal supporters, although as his opinions on all political and social questions are thoroughly well known from his repeated canvass over the entire length and breadth of the borough, where his name is held in great esteem, this seems like a task of supererogation. His friends seem confident of a triumphant issue. Mr. Thompson appears personally at his meetings and addresses them in illustration of his views on the most important political questions of the time, usually pointing to his principal votes while in Parliament during last session. His weakest point, as his opponents contend, is that, although he voted for Mr. Gladstone's resolutions for the disestablishment and subsequently for the Suspensory Bill, he insists on being unfettered as the wind in his future course on that question in case he should be returned to Parliament, on the alleged ground that he might find difficulty in the matter of disavowment in voting for the application of funds given for religious objects to secular purposes. His opponents tell him that he has a large mass of Conservatives amongst his supporters, and it would, no doubt, be inconvenient and dangerous to his prospects to give a pledge as to his future course on this all-important question, on which no candidate at the present crisis ought to speak indefinitely. Public-houses and beerhouses are wholly disused by the friends of Mr. Miall as places for committee-rooms, and are only partially used by the friends of Mr. Thompson, and when called to account for the partial use of committee-rooms at these places, as appearing to afford temptation again to corrupt practices, they state that they have opened committee-rooms in these houses under very exceptional circumstances, and where they could not otherwise get committee-rooms, and they have opened them under guarantees that will prevent either eating, drinking, or smoking in them. Notwithstanding, the opponents of Mr. Thompson assert in public meetings that there are indications of "corruption again creeping in" on their part, and warn them against the consequences of persisting in such an illegal course.

On Tuesday evening, Mr. Conolly, a well-known advocate of trades-unions from London, addressed a large meeting "on capital and labour, and the duty of working men at the forthcoming election," and in the course of his address, he impressed them with the importance of the issue involved in the coming contest in a national point of view, and invoked them to return Mr. Miall, to give to Mr. Gladstone and the Government such a support as no other man could give, especially on the Irish Church question. Mr. Conolly has also addressed several other meetings. At the close of one of the meetings, Mr. Miall's friends said that a great deal of personation took place at the last election, and that more than ninety professed to be the votes of men who were dead.

The Bradford magistrates were engaged for several hours on Monday afternoon in hearing a charge of alleged bribery, preferred under the 2nd section of the 17th and 18th Vic., cap. 102, against Mr. Joseph Greenwood, a woolstapler, resident in Bradford. The evidence went to show that Mr. Greenwood, who stated that he took no active part in the last two elections at Bradford, but intended to support Mr. Thompson at the coming election, and hoped to see him returned, went to the mill of Messrs. Ramsbotham and Co., in Thornton-road, the 17th, 19th, and 20th ult., on business, and in conversation with a person named Alfred Sunderland, a manager there, he asked whether there were not under him several men—electors—whose votes he could obtain for Thompson. Being told that there were employed there perhaps four men whose votes he might secure, the prisoner said that, if he could do so, he would give Sunderland 15s. or 20s., and would give each voter 5s. There several visits were made with this object in view, before the prisoner obtained the names and addresses of the four men.

The evidence was voluminous. The counsel for the defence contended that Sunderland had all the time been hoaxed, and he should call witnesses to show how Sunderland had been befooled, and to give a flat contradiction to his evidence. After a patient hearing of nine hours, the magistrates decided that the case must be dismissed.

RADNOR BOROUGH.—On Thursday, at the close of the poll for the Radnor boroughs, the Marquis of Hartington had received 546 votes, and Mr. Phillips 176; the former being thus returned by a majority of 371. Now that the Marquis of Hartington has been elected, nine members of Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet have seats in the House of Commons, and six in the House of Lords.

WESTBURY.—On Friday, at the close of the poll, Mr. Phipps, brother of the unseated Conservative member, had 499 votes against Mr. Laverton's 487. The former was consequently elected by a majority of twelve.

WEXFORD.—Mr. Devereux (Liberal), whose election upon petition had been declared informal, was on Friday re-elected, unopposed.

SOUTH-WEST LANCASHIRE.—The abstract of the expenses incurred on behalf of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., and Mr. H. R. Grenfell at the election for South-West Lancashire, shows the total to have been 9,943*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

NORWICH.—The Norwich Electoral Organisation—a body comprising the advanced Liberals of the town—held a meeting on Thursday evening, to consider the present position of the constituency as regards its representation and other matters. Of course, until a writ is issued for another election, no candidate can be definitely chosen; but the feeling of the meeting was in favour of the continued candidature of Mr. J. H. Tillett, who was defeated in November, 1868, by Sir H. Stracey, and who afterwards unseated the hon. baronet on petition.

CASHEL.—Mr. Heron, Q.C., has addressed the electors of Cashel on independent principles. He regards the land question as being of the greatest importance to Ireland; and on the Church question will follow Mr. Gladstone's policy as far as declared.

ELECTION PETITIONS.

SLIGO.—Major Knox has been unseated for Sligo, on the ground of bribery by his agents, and has been condemned to pay the costs of the petition. The Judge will report that great bribery and corruption prevailed at the last election, and will report the names of the bribers and bribed.

FALMOUTH.—The inquiry in this town has broken down. The Conservative sitting members, Mr. Eastwick and Mr. Fowler, keep their seats, and the petitioners pay all costs.

BRIDGWATER.—The Liberal members for this borough, Messrs. A. W. Kinglake and Vanderbyl, have been unseated, and ordered to pay the costs of the trial. The town stands a fair chance of being disfranchised.

BODMIN.—Mr. Leveson-Gower has been declared duly elected, with compliments from the Judge on the purity of the contest.

SALFORD.—This case concluded yesterday, and the sitting members were declared duly elected. Mr. Baron Martin, however, blamed many of the acts of Messrs. Cawley and Charley, and ordered each party to pay their own costs. Mr. Baron Martin is represented to have said that if he had to try another petition in Salford, and such practices were again attempted, the judgment would be a different one.

YOUGHAL.—Mr. Weguelin, notwithstanding his prodigal expenditure, has been declared duly elected. Judge O'Brien considered that there was no personal bribery established against Mr. Weguelin; that the employment of watchers was *bona fide*; and that the money distributed to the poor, and orders given to electors was not bribery. He reserved for the Court of Common Pleas the question—whether treating at an hotel was corrupt, and condemned Mr. Weguelin's expenditure as profuse. He was inclined to make each party pay his own costs.

GALWAY.—In his opening statement at the trial of the Galway petition, Mr. Heron gave the details of what appears to have been a conspiracy among the Roman Catholic priests against Mr. O'Flaherty. Mr. O'Flaherty had refused to submit his claims as a candidate in the Liberal interest to the test of a private polling, and in consequence he had what Mr. Heron termed all the splendid organisation of the Roman Catholic Church brought to bear against him during the election. The town had three parishes, three monasteries, and five convents, with priests attached to each. "Several of the Roman Catholic clergymen were personally attached to Mr. O'Flaherty, yet they were compelled to use the language of denunciation against him. A circular was issued by the bishop, calling on the priests to denounce Mr. O'Flaherty from the altar." "The words 'heretic' and 'infidel' were unsparingly used; the people were told that whoever voted for him would have committed a mortal sin, and that he and his friends would be denied the sacraments. The bishop spoke after mass, and the Rev. Mr. Cullen subsequently spoke, but in his address did not use language at all offensive to Mr. O'Flaherty, who was present. He descended from the altar and retired, and was followed by the bishop. He soon reappeared, pale with excitement, and a deep sense of his position. Then came language which would be detailed, and which was under the compulsion of the bishop." He (Mr. Heron) also believed that "a placard which transcended in infamy of language anything he had ever seen at contested elections could be traced to a priest." The Rev. Mr. Cullen gave evidence verifying

ing these allegations. It was subsequently proved that 55*l.* was given to mobmen to cheer, and this was not put down in the accounts sent in, which his lordship declared to be a distinct evasion of the Act of Parliament. Mr. O'Flaherty, the defeated candidate, has been examined. He said the priests canvassed against him in cellars, back lanes, and alums. From morning till night nothing was left undone to damage his character, public and private. The Rev. John Dooley, he added, dragged up voters "like lumber." There were clergymen at the polling places. In opening the case for the defence, counsel stated that the change in the clerical position of the Rev. Mr. Cullen, of which that gentleman had spoken, had been contemplated long before the election.

TAUNTON.—The inquiry into the petition against Sergeant Cox was opened yesterday.

PETITIONS WITHDRAWN.—It has been decided to withdraw the petition against the return of Sir T. G. Heskeith and Mr. Hermon, the Conservative members for Preston. The varied principles which the judges seem to be applying as to the legality of petitions, and the uncertain character of their decisions, has tended materially to influence this resolution. Many of the Liberals are much dissatisfied with this decision. The Radicals of Stockport, believing the withdrawal of the election petitions to be the result of collusion, and holding that bribery was rife in the borough, are about to petition the House of Commons to institute an inquiry. It has been decided to abandon the petition against the Liberal sitting members for Cambridge, Mr. R. R. Torrens and Mr. W. Fowler.

FORTHCOMING PETITIONS.—The following cases have been set down for hearing:—Beverley, March 8; Hereford, March 9; King's Lynn, March 15; Oldham, March 15; Dover, March 20; Pembroke, April 1; Brecknock, April 7; and Christ Church, April 13. No further petitions will be appointed for some weeks.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

Amongst the Foreign Office papers published concerning the relations between England and China occur the following letters:—

THE SECRETARY TO THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY TO THE EARL OF CLARENDON.

(Received February 6.)

Mission House, Blomfield-street, Feb. 5.

There are two important matters which the directors of the London Missionary Society desire to submit to your lordship's attention, and upon which they would be glad to obtain your judgment at an early period. First, as recent events in China and the visit to London of the special Chinese Embassy have brought afresh to your lordship's notice the stipulations of the treaties with China, and among them those clauses which concern the residence and journeyings of missionaries in that empire,—since also the English communities in China have been pressing on the Government the importance of increasing their privileges when the treaty shall be revised,—the directors of the London Missionary Society would be glad to ascertain from your lordship the views which her Majesty's Government now hold of the range within which, according to existing treaties, missionaries in general may freely move. Because, while the opportunities for their usefulness have grown great and numerous, the directors are anxious that the operations of the missionaries of the London Missionary Society shall be so conducted as in no way to embarrass her Majesty's Government, or even inadvertently to complicate the relations between the two empires. That is the only ground on which they would venture to trouble your lordship in the matter.

MR. HAMMOND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Foreign Office, Feb. 10, 1869.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., requesting his opinion in regard to certain matters in China and New Caledonia, in which the London Missionary Society is interested.

For greater convenience Lord Clarendon desires me to reserve the latter point for a subsequent communication, after obtaining from Lord Lyons a report which he will be called upon to furnish; and to confine my present letter to the questions which you put in regard to missionary privileges in China, and specifically as regards the right of locomotion.

Lord Clarendon is glad to receive from the society the assurance that the directors are anxious that the operations of their missionaries should be so conducted as in no way to embarrass her Majesty's Government or even inadvertently to complicate the relations between the two empires. This assurance does honour to the society, and entitles any representations they may make to the most liberal consideration.

With the exception of the Eighth Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, there is no specific engagement with China which can be cited in a British treaty as applying to missionary pursuits.

That article provided that persons teaching or professing the Christian religion shall, whether Protestants or Roman Catholics, be entitled to the protection of the Chinese authorities; and while peaceably pursuing their calling, and not offending against the law, shall not be persecuted or interfered with.

Any other privileges British missionaries are entitled to enjoy in China are provided for by other articles of the treaty applying to British subjects generally.

Lord Clarendon is not prepared to place any abstract construction on those treaty provisions. So much must always depend on the circumstances under which, and the grounds on which, treaty privileges are claimed, that specifically to define the practical extent of any such privileges would be more likely to mislead than serve as a sure guide for action.

Lord Clarendon considers that in all cases of a doubtful nature, where a British missionary desires to receive counsel or directions, his safest course would be to apply to her Majesty's Minister at Peking, and be guided by his advice.

This course is more particularly to be recommended at the present time, inasmuch as it is clear that a strong feeling prevails among the authorities and people of China against the establishment of mission stations in the interior of the country; and it would be highly imprudent in missionaries to persist in disregarding the opposition either of the Chinese authorities or people, and braving their animosity, however unjustifiable or misplaced.

It is impossible for her Majesty's Government to protect a missionary establishment in places where no consular authority is at hand to require the local authorities to exert themselves in its defence, and it is no less impossible to suppose that the feelings of Parliament would be enlisted in favour of measures of coercion to avenge a wrong done to missionaries, which, even if they did not end in war, would, for a time, at least, paralyse British trade, and might be open to much question in point of justice as between country and country.

The London Missionary Society can, in Lord Clarendon's opinion, render no better service to their missionaries than by inculcating on them circumspection in regard to their own conduct, and the utmost consideration for the feelings and character of the people among whom they dwell. The missionaries will do well to follow in the wake of trade, when the people have learnt to see in it material advantage to themselves, rather than seek to lead the way in opening up new locations. In the former case they will find people prepared to receive and listen to their instruction: but, in the latter, there is too much reason to believe that their proffered instruction will be rejected, and their persons exposed to indignity and even danger.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

Postscript.

Wednesday, March 3, 1869.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the Lords a short debate took place on a motion of Earl CLARENDON for the second reading of the bill for the repeal of Lord Aberdeen's Act, which authorises British vessels to seize Brazilian traders carrying slaves. The bill was read a second time.

In the Commons Sir T. Bateson was assured by Mr. C. FORSTER that it was not in contemplation to appoint Cardinal Cullen a member of the Privy Council in Ireland; and the same member was told by Mr. GLADSTONE that Government had not come to an absolute determination in the case of vacant Irish Church livings.

Mr. AGLAND moved for a select committee, or for a Royal Commission, whichever the House preferred, to inquire into the expediency of creating a separate Department of Agriculture. A discussion ensued, in which Mr. Goldney, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Corrance, and other members took part, and Mr. Bright pointed out that agriculture was at present only in the same position as other great interests of the country—notably the cotton trade—and, while he did not think that that position was all that could be desired, he doubted whether the appointment of a committee would be the best mode of attaining the end in view. Mr. AGLAND afterwards withdrew his motion, and expressed his satisfaction with the way in which it had been met by Mr. Bright.

Mr. SHERIDAN then moved for leave to bring in a measure to amend the clauses in the new Reform Act relative to the abolition of compounding, and Mr. LOCKE KING seconded the motion. Mr. GLADSTONE said, that although the Government were prepared to deal with the evil themselves, they would not object to see it taken in hand by a private member. The bill was accordingly introduced.

Mr. CRAUFURD moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the poor-law in Scotland, and dwell on the permanent hostility between the poor and the rich that had grown up under the present system. The motion was ultimately agreed to, after a debate in which a number of Scotch members took part.

On the motion of Mr. HADFIELD, leave was given to bring in a bill to amend the law which regulates the burial of persons in England not belonging to the Established Church.

Other motions were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past nine.

The text of the Irish Church Bill was issued yesterday morning. There are sixty-three clauses, occupying twenty-eight pages, four of which consist of an index of the clauses.

On taking his seat yesterday in the Court of Bankruptcy, Mr. Commissioner Holroyd announced that Mr. Edwards had been dismissed from the office of official assignee, by order of the Lord Chancellor.

The States of Kansas and Louisiana have ratified the Constitutional Amendment by which all colours and races of men in America are placed on an equality in respect to their suffrage rights.

Imperial decrees were issued in Paris yesterday, ordering that the funerals of MM. Troplong and De Lamartine be conducted at the expense of the State.

The ex-King of Hanover has addressed to all German sovereigns a fresh protest against the recently adopted Prussian law confiscating his private property.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Notwithstanding that the receipts of home-grown wheat were limited, the demand was inactive for both red and white parcels, at Monday's quotations. There was a full average quantity of foreign wheat on the stands, the transactions in which were to a very limited extent, at late rates. Floating cargoes of wheat were quiet, and for other articles about there was not much demand. Moderate supplies of barley were on sale. The trade was heavy, and prices were drooping. Malt was dull, on former terms. The show of oats was good. The trade was heavy.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"O. Barker," Bowmansville.—£1 ls., received.
"H. T.," Richmond.—We regret that it is out of our power this week to make use of the report he has been good enough to send us.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1869.

SUMMARY.

THE great historical event of Monday, when Mr. Gladstone in an exhaustive speech unfolded the Government plan for effecting the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church, throws into the shade the other Parliamentary proceedings of the week. Nevertheless, considerable progress has been made in both Houses. In the Lords the Duke of Argyll has submitted the scheme for dealing with Scotch education, the Earl of Kimberley has explained the provisions of the Habitual Criminals Bill, and in the Commons the Home Secretary has given notice that he will to-morrow move for a Select Committee to inquire into the conduct of party and municipal elections, with a view to make them more expeditious, pure, and less costly. Mr. Goschen has also introduced a measure to remedy the serious inconveniences resulting from the extinction of the compound householder without interfering with the Reform Act of 1867. The grievance is redressed in a circuitous fashion. The Bill provides that any occupier who pays his rent in shorter periods than by quarterly instalments, shall, as at present, be rated to the relief of the poor, but shall be entitled to deduct the amount of the rate from the rent due to the owner. The owner may, however, still compound for the payment of rates wherever such agreements may now be lawfully made; but the payment of the rate by the occupier is to be regarded as a qualification for the franchise. It is also proposed that rates shall be collected in instalments, so that no single instalment shall exceed a fortnight's rental of a tenant. It was suggested in the course of the discussion that the shortest way to meet the case would be to enact that the landlords should pay directly all rates imposed on houses let in weekly tenancies, and Mr. Sheridan last night brought in a bill to repeal the clause of the Reform Act which abolished compounding for rates. Should public opinion support the more direct remedy, the Government will not probably object to give the compound householder a new lease of existence.

The banquet at the Freemasons' Tavern last Wednesday in celebration of the Liberal triumphs at the last election, and the subsequent conference with a view to organise the strength of the party, are indications that the Liberals of the Principality are not content to rest on their laurels. Both meetings will help to stimulate the zeal of Welsh reformers, and assure them anew of external support, and are a needful warning to the landlords of that country against the use of undue influence at elections. Mr. Richard, M.P., told the landed proprietors of Wales that if they availed themselves of the power to oppress their poor tenants in the free exercise of the franchise, they would provoke a power which would recoil upon themselves. They would rouse the united moral indignation of Welshmen, so that at the next election no Tories would stand a chance of being returned. But for the landlords and stewards screw, the Liberal party would monopolise the representation of the Principality. There is already a Registration Society for North and South Wales, and it is recommended

that each constituency should form a local organisation to look after its electoral interests in connection with the central societies. Wales now returns twenty-three Liberals to Parliament, and, if the right means are used, may be expected considerably to increase that number at the next election, in spite of the efforts of their opponents to recover lost ground. If it be true that many poor tenants in Wales have lost their farms by a staunch adherence to their convictions, such cases should be made public throughout the country and brought before Parliament. Coercion would not long survive such an exposure.

The trials of election petitions during the week have resulted in the unseating of the Liberal members for Bridgwater—which borough stands a chance of being disfranchised—and the Tory M.P. for Sligo. In the cases of Salford and Youghal, contrary to expectation, the sitting members have been declared duly elected. The effect of the recent lenient decisions of the judges is seen in the withdrawal of several pending petitions.

The army and navy estimates for the year 1869-70 have been published, and justify the expectation which has been held out of considerable retrenchments in these departments of the public service. The entire apparent reduction upon the total army estimates is 1,225,000*l.* From this, however, must be subtracted a sum of 136,000*l.*, representing the advances formerly charged in the estimates for the pay of Indian officers on furlough, which is to be henceforth provided directly by the Indian Government. The real amount of the whole saving is therefore 1,089,000*l.*, and is effected to a great extent by the withdrawal of troops from the colonies, and a proportionate reduction for the number of men. But the army estimates still amount to the enormous sum of 14,230,400*l.* The amount required for the navy is 9,996,540*l.*, as against 11,167,290*l.* last year, or, making some necessary reductions for purposes of comparison, a net decrease on last year's estimates of 957,357*l.*, of which a little under a half is on the wages and maintenance of men, and a little more than half on various establishments. Mr. Childers, notwithstanding his economy, proposes to build three turret ironclads during the year. In both services, however, the reforms adopted hold out the promise of further considerable savings.

After one of the longest trials on record, the great (or little) case of Saurin v. Starr was brought to a close on Friday, when the jury, in opposition to the summing up of Chief Justice Cockburn, returned a verdict for the plaintiff with damages for 500*l.* It would be hardly possible to look at this trial from any new point of view, or to indulge at this time of day in any original comment. Wearisome as have been the details of the case, and dismal the picture they present of convent life, or rather of its tendency to foster the meaner passions, and dissipate the energies in a trivial round of petty observances, the general effect of these revelations has been most salutary. The charm with which sentimental piety is apt to invest a life of seclusion from the world has been rudely dissipated. A close microscopic examination of convent life as it is has only increased the revulsion from a state of existence which does violence to natural instincts, while it has had the effect of discouraging State interference with such institutions. The petty scandals at Hull were not of a kind which could have been prevented by Government inspection; for the object of the systematic persecution of Miss Saurin was not to keep her in durance, but to drive her out. But when the law has been appealed to, it has amply sufficed to obtain justice.

The death of two Frenchmen of eminence is announced—M. Troplong, the President of the Senate and an accomplished lawyer, and M. de Lamartine, the celebrated poet, historian, and statesman. Though the latter had long since ceased to take any part in public life, his brilliant services as Minister for Foreign Affairs, during the short-lived Republic of 1848, are not forgotten. At that period M. Lamartine was one of the foremost men of Europe. By his eloquence he stirred up the revolutionary enthusiasm of the people, and by his moral influence and courage kept it within bounds. As the *Daily News* remarks:—"At a fearful crisis in the history of France and of Europe—a crisis which he had done some thing to create—he did an illustrious service to society at the risk of everything. But he was always the poet and the visionary—never the man to deal with the hard facts of the practical world. His politics were decided by his poetical and literary sympathies, and consisted in the lyrical exposition and glorification of ideas, and not in the exposition or defence of practical measures." Yet these ideas restrained the hand of violence, and went far to elevate his countrymen.

MONDAY NIGHT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DURING the early part of the afternoon of Monday, the outside of the House of Commons presented fewer indications of the approach of a great political event than were to be seen on some occasions both last Session and the Session which preceded it. Members were making their way to the House before the usual time, in order to ticket their seats; but the line of onlookers in Westminster Hall was not much longer or denser than common. In St. Stephen's Hall it was otherwise; for there were assembled a crowd of "strangers," each armed with a member's order, which, however, proved to be valuable, or otherwise, according to the issue of the ballot that determined who were the forty fortunate individuals having the first right of entry into the Strangers' Gallery—a plan adopted in lieu of the old system, which, on great occasions, made it necessary to be in waiting throughout the livelong day. Those who had the good fortune to secure certain seats in other parts were allowed to make their way into the central lobby, but were kept out of the lobby until the Speaker had taken the chair.

The seats hitherto allotted to peers, and other privileged persons, within the House, underneath the gallery, having been reduced in number, in order to give increased accommodation to the members, the gangway which formerly separated the ambassadors' seats and the Speaker's Gallery is now occupied with a bench for those who have been displaced below, and in these two front rows were to be seen a good number of well-known public men not often seen in such proximity. Royalty was represented in the person of the Duke of Cambridge. The Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Earl de Grey, and Lord Kimberley, were there to listen to an exposition of the scheme over which they and their colleagues had spent so many hours in the Cabinet, and the Irish Chancellor was present also. The new Primate and the new Bishop of London, the Bishops of Peterborough and Ripon, with other bishops, and Dean Stanley, were mingled with the temporal peers. The Secretary of the Liberation Society sat, serene and watchful, next an Irish Dean, and the Treasurer of that society was not far off. Mr. Delane, the editor of the *Times*, of course was there; and Mr. Reverdy Johnson came to see how Ireland was, so far as the Establishment is concerned, to be put in the same happy position as his own country. There were also in the galleries behind, some Dissenting ministers and lay liberators, with English and Irish ecclesiastics, and other folks, belonging both to town and country, who appeared highly to appreciate the possession of their much-coveted seats, and to be looking forward with eager anticipation to the Ministerial statement which, it was understood, would be the one feature of the night's proceedings.

Of course every available space was occupied—the reporters' and ladies' galleries, the new seats lately provided for members, and the seats for members in the galleries; the only exception being in the side gallery above the Ministerial benches. The opposite side gallery was, however, crowded; members having flocked there that they might face Mr. Gladstone. The Treasury Bench proved inadequate for its assigned occupants, some of whom had to be content with the steps in front of the Speaker's chair; others being relegated to the galleries. There was all the hum and buzz which precedes a great night in the House, but, on the whole, much less excitement than prevailed on the principal Irish Church nights last year; party passion appearing to have spent itself, and the proceedings assuming the business-like air belonging to practical legislation.

But little could be heard of the petitions, the questions and the notices, amid the prevailing talk; but they were over rather before the usual time, and at just after a quarter to five Mr. Gladstone was called upon. Then came a great cheer, and then deep silence, as Mr. Gladstone, without a word of comment, moved that the Acts relating to the Irish Establishment and to Maynooth, and the first resolution of last Session, be read. This was done in a trice—nominally, that is, for, fortunately for the patience of Parliamentary listeners, the reading of the titles of the Acts is taken as the reading of the Acts themselves. Then came the motion that the House go into Committee to consider the Acts and Resolution, and that being at once carried, the Speaker quitted his official seat, and sat at one end of the Treasury Bench, and Mr. Dodson, as Chairman of Committees, took his accustomed seat at the corner of the table. Thus the stage which it required four nights to reach in 1868, occupied about as many minutes

in 1869,—a fact which symbolises the progress which the cause of disestablishment has made within twelve months.

Mr. Gladstone was received with another burst of cheering as he again rose, and then once more followed a silence which, except very occasionally, was not disturbed for above three hours, during which but few members left their seats, and all were intently engaged in following the speaker, as he travelled from point to point of the great scheme which it was his duty to develop. Those who have often heard Mr. Gladstone have frequently been more thrilled by his oratory than on this occasion; but they probably never were so struck with his marvellous faculty for the artistic arrangement, and the lucid exposition, of complex details, which in his hands form "a mighty maze, but not without a plan," and which indicate that the information necessarily obtained from others has, by a digestive process, become absolutely his own. Never was a great speech freer from rhetorical artifice of the meaner sort, or more adapted, by its construction and tone, to launch successfully an important legislative project. Instead of wearying his audience by a lengthened prologue, he brought them in five-and-twenty minutes to the very point which all were anxious to reach, viz., the statement of the plans by which the Irish Church was to be (1) partially disestablished at once, (2) completely disestablished by the 1st of January, 1871, and (3) altogether "wound-up," as regards disendowment, at the expiration of ten years. The solitary compliment paid to the speaker by Mr. Disraeli was strictly true; for not a phrase was wasted, and only once, when alluding to Dean Swift, did Mr. Gladstone suffer himself to be diverted for an instant from the line of strict exposition by any of the thoughts and suggestions with which his mind must have teemed, as he rigorously confined himself to the discharge of his great duty. In two hours he had disposed of the Church, and had come to the *Regium Donum* and Maynooth College, and to the interesting inquiries—what would be the balance available for national purposes, and what should those purposes be?

All through the speech, as we have said, there was an unusual abstinence from displays of party feeling; the only approach to it being when the Opposition "Hear, hear'd" the allusion to the settlement of the question as not yet perfected, and Mr. Gladstone instantly retorted, "but soon to be perfected." Then the Liberals, who had come to feel the ground firm beneath their feet, burst into a victorious cheer. Some points of the speech had a very noticeable effect on the House. Thus, when Mr. Gladstone made some reference to life-interests in graveyards, there was laughter on the part of some, which did not appear intelligible to others. When he warned Trinity College that it must presently be dealt with, the Opposition responded with significant, and the Liberals with defiant, cheers. The statement respecting the small value of the parsonages occasioned incredulous astonishment. The announcement that the Irish bishops must cease to be peers of Parliament, regardless of life-interests, was emphatically cheered, and that part of the speech which related to the redemption of the tithe-rent-charge was listened to with the keenest interest. Perhaps, however, the interest of the House culminated at the point when Mr. Gladstone, after declaring to what purposes the proceeds of the Church property ought not to be appropriated, was obliged to announce the Ministerial proposal. We say obliged, because the preamble of the Bill which he read only raised, without satisfying expectation, for "the relief of unavoidable calamity and suffering," gave no definite information. At first, the mention of lunatic asylums created a little disappointment, because it seemed to be inadequate; but presently, when other purposes of a like beneficent kind were enumerated, the amounts of money which could be appropriated to them were stated, and the substantial relief to be afforded by the reduction of the county cess in Ireland was dilated upon, the hearts of the Liberal party seemed to be touched with a generous impulse, which at once moved them to increased sympathy for Ireland, and increased admiration of the genius which had so happily solved the knottiest portion of the problem which the Liberal leader had been called upon to solve. When—the whole ground travelled over, and the allotted task completely performed—Mr. Gladstone modestly, but confidently, expressed the hope that their plan would be considered to be loyal to the expectations held out by the Government, and "loyal to the people of England who believed their promises," there could scarcely have been a doubting mind on one side of the House, while there could not but be grudging, if not generous, admiration on the other. The peroration was brief—impressive,

without being impassioned; dignified, and without a tinge of party spirit or bitterness. The speaker sat down—at the expiration of three hours and twenty-four minutes—amid a roar of applause, which seemed to give vent to the pent-up feelings of his enthusiastic and grateful supporters.

Mr. Disraeli quickly followed, but spoke briefly, and, so far as manner and matter were concerned, was faultless. He retained his opinions on the question, but should not oppose the introduction of the Bill, which he hoped would not be read a second time before the expiration of three weeks. The Premier was willing to give to the 18th inst., but no longer. Then he signified the assent of the Queen to place her interest in the archbishoprics, bishoprics, and other dignities of the Irish Church at the disposal of Parliament; some questions were asked and answered, the requisite leave to bring in the Bill was given, and, after some intervening business, the Bill was brought in and read a first time—the names of Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright, Mr. Fortescue, and the Irish Attorney-General being endorsed upon it. By that time the House was nearly empty, and then the business paper having been got through, the House was up. "Why! we have abolished the Irish Establishment before nine o'clock," was one of the exclamations we heard in the lobby, and, probably, never since Parliaments began was so great a piece of work so quickly and so quietly dispatched.

AN EDUCATIONAL PRECEDENT.

A BILL was introduced by the Duke of Argyll into the House of Lords, last Thursday, which is so important in itself, and which may involve such important issues with respect to the system of national education in the United Kingdom, that we beg the particular and earnest attention of our readers to its most characteristic provisions.

The system of education which has already prevailed in Scotland, has done no little for the people,—not quite so much, perhaps, as it is customary to suppose, but sufficient to make them, on the whole, the most intelligent nation in Europe. That our Scottish friends are quite conscious of their superiority in this respect, and that they are rather given to show that consciousness, are proofs that their education has not been quite as good as they imagine it to have been. The fibre of their mental, as of their physical nature, has been strengthened by the exercise of successive generations. They have an unusual degree of acuteness, but with that very desirable quality they possess others which commonly attend a very half-educated people,—or people who are educated only on one side of their nature. If the reader of these remarks should never have seen a Scotchman we may inform him he will find the substantial counterpart of perhaps the majority of the northern nation, in our certificated teachers and pupil-teachers. These classes in England have special characteristics. We will not describe what they are, for everybody has had an opportunity of observing them. It is sufficient to say that most Scotchmen who have been educated either in the parochial or other schools—and pretty nearly all who come to England—have as good an education as is possessed by most of our certificated teachers, and that, with that education, they unfortunately possess somewhat similar and, indeed, almost identical defects.

The fact that mental culture, of such a kind as it is, has been carried to such a height in the common schools of Scotland, might be assumed to be a sufficient reason for not changing the present system. This system is good, and almost infinitely superior to ours in all respects. For instance, as the Duke of Argyll stated, the universal custom in Scotland is that children of very different classes should be educated together in the parish school, the children of the poorest labourer sitting beside the children of the farmer who employs him; the children of the clergyman, and, in some cases, those of the landed gentry, sitting also on the same bench, learning under the same master, the same branches of instruction. This is characteristic of America and Austria, of all the German States, and of France; but only in Scotland, amongst the British dominions, does the same admirable spirit of equality exist. The result is what we see almost every day of our lives—poor but well-trained Scotchmen rising to high rank in social life, to success in official work and in various engagements to an extent which it is almost impossible for poor Englishmen to attain. And, when they have attained the "summit of their ambition"—if that ever be attained—they exhibit, as a rule, none of those awkward and left-handed manners which are so common amongst risen Englishmen. These Scotchmen, in fact, have had, so far as

that sort of intellectual education which is most highly prized is concerned, an education in mathematics, Greek, Latin, &c., that is quite equal to any that can, as a rule, be obtained at Eton or some other equally famous public schools. While they have been learning they have, at the same time, been mixing with their superiors in rank and in refinement of manners. Nobody, therefore, ever saw a painfully bashful blush on the face of a Scotchman when he was introduced into good society. He has been in good society from his earliest life, and knows, or thinks he knows, very well, what it is.

Another characteristic of Scottish popular education is that it takes no note of religious differences. There is no necessity, or only the very slightest, for a Conscience Clause in that country. If we might put the matter in the briefest form, we should say that the people are, in regard to all questions of very broad difference, too Protestant to be sectarian. At any rate, it is a fact, vouched for over and over again before the recent Commission of Education in that country, that not the staunchest Presbyterian ever dreams of forcing his religious faith upon the Roman Catholic children who, for want of any other, are compelled to attend the parochial Presbyterian school. We say, not the staunchest Presbyterian; but, where there happens to be an Episcopalian school, the same rule is observed as with that community in England, every child must there be taught the Episcopalian formularies, or go altogether without education.

Now, looking at the matter from our English point of view, it might almost be considered that the system of education which has hitherto been pursued in Scotland has been so good that it would be difficult, on the whole, to improve it. It has been good; and one of the best proofs that it has been so consists in the fact that the people want something better. In the first place, it has still too much of an ecclesiastical or denominational character. The Bill, therefore, which the Duke of Argyll has introduced, proposes to take the conduct of education out of denominational hands. The Duke explained its provisions in this respect in clear and decisive language. He said,—

A great step is now proposed to be made to cut off the connection between education and the conduct of particular religious bodies. The inspectors are no longer to be necessarily members of any particular denomination, and they are not to be confined to the inspection of schools connected with any particular denomination. Above all, it is expressly provided that they are to take no cognisance of religious instruction unless the managers of the school themselves desire such cognisance to be taken. But for this clause I do not believe the scheme would have received such general assent from all parties. We have full confidence that the ratepayers will conduct their religious instruction very much as it is now conducted. There is practically no difference between the schools of any denomination. Parents, as was proved to us over and over again, do not care one halfpenny to what religious bodies schools may happen to belong, but send their children to the best master, whether it is an Established Church school, a Free Church, or a United Presbyterian. The noble duke opposite made an important step towards the consummation we propose by recommending assistance to schools founded on a secular basis. In Scotland, therefore, we take no notice of the religious teaching of the schools beyond a very stringent conscience clause. No public money is to be given to any school which does not submit to such a clause.

It has been seen that there is little actual necessity in Scotland for such measures as these, but, in order to secure equal justice everywhere and under all circumstances, there is some necessity. It is, therefore, proposed that religious distinctions shall in future be unknown, both in the inspection and in the attendance at publicly-aided schools.

Then, again, the supply of schools is unequal. The denominational system has done what it has done in England, put down Wesleyan, Episcopal, and Congregational schools in a neighbourhood where only one school was actually necessary. There has been a waste of educational power and of money. It is intended to remedy this fault. The Duke explained the proposed alteration by stating, that while denominational rivalry had, in the past, been encouraged, it would in the future be discouraged. An unsectarian board is to be constituted, with the power "of selecting and adopting those denominational schools which are really required, thereby not necessarily throwing them upon the rates, but securing to them the continuance of the Parliamentary grant. We also offer them the power of saying, 'We desire to be thrown upon the rates, giving up our sectarian management, and throwing the schools on the management of the parochial schools.' Such a proposition affects two parties, and the object of several important clauses is to give the Board the power of consulting them, so that if they agree the schools may become parochial, under the management of a committee representing the ratepayers. In this way we hope to avoid the waste of money which has attended the Privy

Council system, and to apportion such funds as we may derive from Imperial taxation to the real requirements of the country. To stop the evil for the future, no more denominational schools are to be established after a given date, which is calculated with the view of observing good faith towards those who have already applied for or been promised subventions."

Next, how are such schools to be originated? It happens, as we have intimated, mainly as an incidence of the denominational system, that schools are in excess in some places while they are greatly wanted in others. This is more the case in England than in Scotland. In Scotland it is proposed to supply the deficiency in the following way:—A national Board is to be constituted, consisting of an equal number of representatives of landed proprietors, of representatives of burghs, of university authorities, and of the masters of schools. This Board is to decide where schools are required, and then to notify the decision to the proper local authorities, who must at once proceed to supply the deficiency. The cost of building and of maintenance is to be paid out of the local rates.

Such are the principal provisions of what, in our judgment, seems to be one of the most sagacious measures ever brought under the notice of the Legislature. It combines all the best features, if possible, of every system of national education. It is unsectarian; it aims at the best results; it is not subject to the ignorance, caprice, or cupidity of parochial authorities, and it provides for good government. We dare say the Scotch will get it: they always get the best things before we do. Let us hope that, one of these days, we may be equally favoured even with "the most favoured nation."

THE REPRESSION OF CRIME.

Two years ago transportation to the Australian colonies wholly ceased, and we were very properly called upon to dispose of our convict population within our own borders. Of course the retention in our midst of some five hundred criminals, who, under the old system, were annually shipped off to commence a new life at the Antipodes, has not increased the security of society, and from time to time since 1864 the Government has endeavoured to put a check upon crime by more stringent legislation. Prison discipline was made more strict, short periods of penal servitude were done away with—none being less than five years, and the police supervision over tickets-of-leave was strengthened. The result of these measures thus far has not been very marked. It is certainly a great gain to have made prison discipline a reality. There is no doubt that criminals under sentence of penal servitude do not now lead a life of indolence. Such has been the beneficial change resulting from the system carried out by Colonel Henderson that the three great convict prisons of Portland, Portsmouth and Chatham are almost self-supporting. Last year the cost of maintaining these establishments was 110,532*l.*, while the value of the work performed by the convicts was not less than 106,421*l.* The closer supervision of the police over tickets of leave is also reported to have had, on the whole, a beneficial effect.

Still the criminal class which is not under lock and key, and makes war upon society, is not decreasing. It is, as Lord Kimberley says, "a great army." His lordship can only draw consolation from the fact "that crime has not in general largely increased." Throughout the country the number of persons at large, living by dishonesty and crime, is estimated at more than 115,000, of whom some 20,000 are to be found in the metropolis. The convicts under detention are 7,450; and, assuming that the amount of crime will be constant, and making allowance for the longer terms of penal servitude, that number eight years hence may be expected to reach more than 10,000. The question is, whether, apart from general legislation of a beneficial tendency—such as the multiplication of schools, the improvement of dwellings, and the restriction of the liquor traffic—it is possible to tighten the hold of the Executive on the dangerous population, and thereby restrict crime. This is the problem with which it is proposed to deal in the Home Secretary's Bill introduced into the House of Lords on Friday night by the Earl of Kimberley.

The Government not being prepared to accept the extreme principle that persons convicted of felony a second or third time should be imprisoned for life, have resolved to extend the system of police supervision over liberated convicts. They cannot detain them in custody, but they will interpose every possible obstacle in the way of their return to criminal courses. Setting aside the maxim of English law that a man is considered innocent till he is proved to

be guilty, the Home Secretary's Bill throws upon persons suspected of being habitual criminals the onus of showing that they are earning an honest livelihood. Thus a ticket-of-leave may at any time be taken before a magistrate, and if unable to prove his honesty, be committed to undergo the original term of imprisonment. Then in order to make supervision more effectual, there is to be a central registry of licences with a complete system of communication throughout the country. By this plan, if efficiently worked, all professional criminals will be under constant surveillance. It is proposed that persons convicted of felony a second time, but not sentenced to penal servitude, shall in all cases be under the supervision of the police for seven years after the expiration of their second punishment—that is, they may at any time be called upon to prove that they are gaining an honest living, and in default will be sentenced to a year's imprisonment. Criminals found guilty of felony after two previous convictions, the last within five years of the third conviction, are to be sentenced to penal servitude for seven years, and to be subject to a somewhat less stringent system of police supervision than the more serious offender, though their liability to it is to endure for the whole of their lives instead of lasting for seven years only. They will not, indeed, be bound to prove that they are pursuing an honest life, but will be liable to summary imprisonment for twelve months if shown to be living under circumstances of suspicion. Granting the abstract equity of these provisions, it may be questioned where such offenders could ever obtain work, and whether, in a spirit of despair, they would not become more desperate in evil courses. Life imprisonment might be more tolerable than police surveillance for life, and would be perhaps less costly to society. This, however, is a point that needs, and will no doubt receive, full consideration during the progress of Mr. Bruce's measure.

The Bill also provides for giving increased power over a very large class, viz. that of rogues and vagabonds, who, without the proof of any overt act, if found in a dwelling-house or public place under circumstances indicating an intention of committing an unlawful act, may in future be summarily sentenced to imprisonment. Still more important as a means of diminishing crime is the arrangement suggested for bringing to justice the receiver of stolen goods, who is, if anything, more guilty than his dupes and accomplices. At present, it is necessary, in order to punish a receiver, to prove that he has received goods knowing them to be stolen; but it is now proposed that where any man has been sentenced to imprisonment, if afterwards accused of being a receiver, the burden of proof shall be put upon him to show that the goods were not stolen. To bring home conviction to the thieves' capitalists is one of the standing difficulties to the police, and there is good reason to believe with Lord Shaftesbury that if the detection of these culprits can be facilitated, more will be done to repress crime than by the infliction of severer punishment on the burglar and the thief.

If it be true, which Lord Houghton seems to doubt, that police supervision over tickets-of-leave has been on the whole beneficial, one of the strongest arguments against the new system, or rather the extension of police surveillance in connection with liberated convicts, falls to the ground. Lord Kimberley says that the plan "has in many cases afforded great assistance in their earning an honest livelihood, nor am I surprised at it, for my opportunities of seeing the working of the system in Ireland convinced me that the supervision of the police might be carried out so as effectually to prevent the recurrence of crime, and at the same time be no hindrance, but a great assistance, to their obtaining employment." But the Irish system is only in partial operation in England, and there is too frequent evidence of incompetence, over-zeal, and tyranny on the part of the police to make it certain that the new and extended powers to be lodged in their hands will be judiciously exercised.

The great merit of Mr. Bruce's Bill is that it proposes to deal stringently and effectively with the professional criminal class—the enemies of society—to lay hands upon the secret abettors of their evil deeds, and to facilitate the detection of crime. It is an experiment—an act of self-defence—justified by a regard for the interests of the whole community. Its success will largely depend upon the value of the instrumentality employed—which has yet to be tested—upon not pushing too mercilessly the theory that all criminals are social outcasts, and upon the discretionary powers which may be given to the judges on the bench.

MR. GOSCHEN ON INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITIONS.

THE Industrial Exhibition recently opened in South London, although, to some extent, a purely local affair, derives a certain degree of interest and importance by reason of the new President of the Poor-law Board having delivered the inaugural address; also because of the display itself, being the third of a series, enabling us to form a tolerably fair estimate of the extent to which such exhibitions have been rendered practically useful to the working classes generally. Mr. Goschen's address was more eulogistical in tone than that made by him several months ago, on the occasion of the distribution of the prizes in connection with the North London Industrial Exhibition, but he did not omit to mention a truth which can never be impressed too often or too strongly upon the artisan mind, namely, that they should look to themselves, rather than to the State, for improving their social and intellectual condition. If ever we are to remain a great and powerful nation, it can only be by the continued development of the qualities of self-reliance and independence, especially amongst those upon whose labour so much of our national prosperity depends. In proportion as a nation entrusts the working of its social affairs to the State, so does it surrender the principal sources of its prosperity and happiness, and enter upon the path of subservience and national decadence. It has been said that the arts flourish best under despotisms. We are inclined to doubt the exact accuracy of this assertion. It may be true that costly and unique works of art, intended for the enjoyment of the few, are produced more largely under the régime of a despot than under the sway of a really representative government, but this does not arise from any real lack of art-appreciation on the part of popular rulers, but rather because they are in the habit of studying, more or less, the various interests of those whom they have been appointed to govern. We gaze at the gorgeous palace of an Emperor, or a Czar, and are dazzled with the numerous art-wonders contained therein; but our admiration quickly fades when we recall how all these marvellous glories of architect, sculptor, and painter, have been procured at the cost of fearful privations and sufferings on the part of a heavily taxed and impoverished people. No really free nation could have dreamed of rearing the Pyramids—those stupendous monuments which seem to bid eternal defiance to the hand of Time; not because free peoples are insensible to the true majesty of art, because they instinctively recoil from the terrible amount of national oppression and misery which the erection of such structures inevitably entail. The great architectural works of many ancient nations were produced with the aid of slave labour. The cultivation of art under a despotism may possibly tend to produce a larger number of artistic minds of a certain standard, but it in no wise conduces to increase or promote the general well-being and happiness of the community at large. The real triumphs of art, as an agent in purifying and elevating the tastes of a free people, have yet to be achieved. Even in Italy, the true patrons of art, during its grandest periods, when genius after genius arose to dazzle the world, were the Italian princes and dukes rather than the Italian people themselves. In like manner, the continental cathedrals, with their vast and splendid stores of art-treasures, represent, not the social and intellectual advancement of the continental nations, but their slavish subservience to the haughty pretensions of priestcraft and superstition. And why? Because people had not then learned the value of self-reliance, but preferred leaving everything in the hands of their rulers, whether temporal or spiritual.

Hence it is clear that what is called national art may be purchased at too great a cost. Hence also the significance of the lessons now so frequently being inculcated in the minds of our handicraftsmen. We are at the beginning of a great popular art movement. Our industrial exhibitions, with their numerous crude artistic efforts, may appear positively contemptible by the side of the national art collections, either here or on the continent, in the same way that a schoolboy's first attempt at calligraphy will not bear comparison for an instant with the penmanship of an experienced clerk; but then everything must have a commencement. If we once vigorously arouse in working men the desire to achieve excellence in the various departments of productive industry, we have practically laid the foundations of true national art-progress. The acorn does not all at once become an oak-tree. And so with the results of these industrial exhibitions. Were these displays in any way the work of the Government,

their teachings would be valueless; but it is from the fact they that are otherwise, that they are so thoroughly spontaneous and independent in their character, that they derive their chief importance. Already they have largely assisted in disabusing the working-class mind of several mischievous notions. If we contrast the contents of the present South London Exhibition with those of the exhibition held in the same place in 1864, we shall observe numerous slight, yet significant, indications of progress. Our artisans are beginning to discover, that a table consisting of a hundred pieces, put together with a single tool, although creditable to the producer's ingenuity, possesses far less actual value than a similar article of furniture made in the best taste and with the best tools; in short, that excellence, however obtained, is the true and only test of merit. In the present exhibition it is announced that special reference will be made, in the distribution of prizes, to mechanics and artisans peculiarly skilled in their own or other departments. This is a feature which should be adopted in all similar exhibitions. We must first encourage the development of technical skill, improved art-taste will follow and prepare the way for the rise of true national art. And herein is to be found the primary value of these exhibitions. As Mr. Goschen truly remarked, "The catalogue is not merely of objects exhibited, but one of minds improved, and of hands increased in skill."

It has too long been assumed that workmanship is one thing, and art another, or, as Mr. Beresford Hope once observed, "that the workshop was the solid, practical thing, and that art was something very pretty and beautiful—that workmanship was the week-day clothes, and art the Sunday attire." This erroneous impression once pervaded all sections of society, and even now it lingers in circles which profess to be, so far as social position is concerned, considerably above the artisan community. But people are at last beginning to learn that in reality art signifies good workmanship, that all good work is art, and that in proportion as we improve the skill and taste of our workmen, so do we extend and encourage the art tastes of the community. Consequently, such exhibitions as that in South London possess an importance considerably greater than is at first apparent. They teach both exhibitors and visitors that art means the faculty of producing and understanding the best material applied to all the purposes of life. If the exhibitors have not reached the particular standard of excellence attainable by them even in their present position, it is partly the result of their want of familiarity with good models. The art museum is to them almost a sealed book. The English Government, in permitting the formation of the South Kensington collection on its present site, have committed the error of most ruling bodies, that of overlooking the interests of the many. In France, the museum would have been placed in the very centre of the capital, in a locality accessible to every artisan. We have yet to get rid of that selfish spirit of exclusiveness which holds that the proper enjoyment of art is a privilege confined to the educated classes alone. What Mr. Cole and his colleagues have neglected to perform, the London artisans have, in their own rough, energetic, and businesslike way endeavoured to execute. Nor have their labours been wholly in vain. The neighbourhood in which the South London Exhibition is being held is not one suggestive of refined ideas or of æsthetic enjoyments, yet this is the very reason why such an exposition held in such a place becomes so productive of good. Mr. Goschen appears to have perceived this when he remarked that the meeting of working men in a place like the South London Exhibition "must have a beneficial influence upon their minds and upon their hearts." That these are not idle words, is shown by the results of such expositions. The desire for self-improvement, once awakened, seldom becomes stifled. A double motive comes into action. The artisan finds that the more skilful his work becomes, the more largely is he enabled to gratify his love of art, and, at the same time, to add to his money value as a workman. With Mr. Goschen, we believe that these exhibitions have done, and will yet do, considerable good, and that the time has not yet arrived for regarding them as useless and unnecessary.

THE SCOTCH LAW OF HYPOTHEC THE ROOT OF COUNTY LIBERALISM.

MUCH confusion seems to exist, even among high authorities, respecting this law; and as Mr. Charles Carnegie's Bill for its abolition will ere long be before the House of Commons, it may not be out of place to tell in a word or two what it is. This is the more important as

justice is asked, where long injustice has been done, from an assembly, many of whose members are certain not to inquire very strictly into its deleterious working now-a-days.

The Law of Hypothec is a genuine relic of the feudal system, and exists in Scotland like a huge boulder left in a pleistocene valley, telling of an old epoch. In the days when the farmer was only a hired servant, and when the proprietor was landlord of the mill at which the corn was ground, as well as of the farm itself, some guarantee was needed against the possible combination of his servants against him; and this was found in the Law of Hypothec. If any grain was removed from the farm *without having passed through open market* (which, of course, was presumed to be quite a public channel in which the proprietor was protected by its very publicity), it could be *hypothecated*, in other words, the landlord could, if he chose, follow it even to a second purchaser, and claim its price, notwithstanding that the first buyer could prove that he had already paid the farmer for it, and that the second buyer could prove that he had paid the first. The Law of Hypothec, then, never having been abrogated, is something quite different from the preference a landlord has always, over other creditors, for the payment of his rent. But now that all the relations of the proprietor and the occupier of the land have been changed, the law has become simply unjust, and in its operation occasionally scandalous. Grain is never now, or at all events, very seldom, sold in open market, but by sample; so that in the event of any farmer meeting with sudden misfortune, or being equal to fraud, or excessive extravagance, the corn-dealer to whom he has disposed of his crop may be put at the mercy of a rapacious landlord for a second payment. And not only so. The law has operated in not a few instances, as an inducement for landlords to wink at a tenant's neglect and wrong-doing, so that he may serve his own ends by putting in his Hypothec at a suitable moment. Indeed, during a recent agricultural crisis in Scotland, or at least what Scotch farmers held to be such, "men of straw" were a common byword. This meant that the landlords "let" large farms to men who were notoriously without the means of properly working them, and who thus got up a false credit and obtained goods from manure-dealers, and other tradesmen. Valuable elements were put into the soil, the land being consequently raised in value; and at some opportune term, when the rent was not immediately forthcoming, the proprietor used the power of his Hypothec, and obtained his rent by dint of a second payment for corn, cattle, or sheep, whilst those whose goods had gone to improve and enrich the soil, were left literally "out in the cold." The landlords, at least some of them, thus seized and burned the tenant's candle at both ends, to drop the fat on the manor lands; for by means of the "men of straw," land was forced up to quite an adventitious value over the country generally, and the genuine hardworking farmer put to hard shifts even to barely live.

The injury that was done to Scotland in the way of stirring up a spirit of alienation between proprietors and farmers was great, but it was only temporary in its ill results. The landlords, Conservative by instinct, as a body, clung to the last vestige of their territorial right, and even men who would themselves have scorned to do a mean or unjust thing, yet looked on Hypothec as being something to which, for the sake of their class, they were bound to cling. The farmers, at last, driven to seek aid in common association, discovered that talents were slumbering amongst them which they had never dreamed of, and that in unity lay their strength. Associations were formed in the various counties, and a system of correspondence instituted in order to joint and effective action. So thoroughly did these societies do their work that for the last half-dozen years there has been a growing tendency on the part of Scotch counties to make the testing questions these,—"Will you vote for the abrogation of Hypothec? Will you take stand against the game laws?" This is the root out of which the Scotch farmer Liberalism has grown; or, at all events, it is the water by which the root, which perhaps lies more truly in the Presbyterian or Republican instinct to which the Duke of Argyll so eloquently referred the other night, has been stimulated and strengthened. So, owing to the strongheadedness of most of the landowners, it happens that Scotch counties are almost as Liberal as the towns. When Sir Thomas Gladstone, in 1855, contested Kincardineshire with Mr. Dyce Nicol, and, with no very good grace, was about to entertain a meeting of electors with facetious sneers about his distinguished Liberal brother's wine bill, he was interrupted by a small tenant-farmer, who said that as it was market day, Sir Thomas must excuse the

value he and his friends put on time; and that all they wanted was categorical answers to these questions,—Hypothec: Yes or no? The Game Laws: Yes or no? And on Sir Thomas humming and hawing, the same tenant-farmer spoke again, intimating that such devices would not satisfy him for one, and as no good was to be got from his staying there, he recommended all who were of his way of thinking to follow him. Here he made for the door, amid hurrahs and cheers, followed by all, save a few of the Tory *attachés*. Thus Hypothec—though a crying evil—has helped the Liberal cause; and surely it would ill beseem a Liberal House of Commons to allow men of this type to rest longer under the disadvantage of such unequal laws; and certainly the Hon. Charles Carnegie deserves all honour for the manner in which he has stepped forward from his class to plead the cause of justice for the tenant-farmers of Scotland.

MUSIC.

MR. JOSEPH BARNBY'S CONCERTS.—Allowing for the drawback of Mr. Sims Reeves' absence through illness, Mr. Barnby's performance of "Elijah" was in every respect as successful as that of "Jephtha," with which he commenced his present series of oratorio performances. Though the performers had the advantage of greater familiarity with the music, so excellent a performance of so complex and difficult a work as "Elijah," especially when undertaken for the first time, cannot but reflect the highest credit on the conductor and performers. The principal bass music was undertaken by Herr Carl Stepan, who has an excellent voice, and, on the whole, accomplished his arduous task with considerable success. Madame Rudersdorff, to whose powers the highly dramatic music of the oratorio seems peculiarly suited, sang the principal soprano part as effectively as ever. Mdlle. Drasdill's singing of the favourite air, "O rest in the Lord," was, as might have been expected, warmly applauded, and Miss Emily Angell was very successful in the other contralto song, "Woe unto them." Mr. Montem Smith, who has on several occasions elsewhere undertaken the rather ungrateful task of supplying Mr. Sims Reeves' lack of service, sang the principal tenor music with that correctness and good taste which always render him so acceptable a substitute. Madame Emmeline Cole, and Messrs. Byron, Maybrick and Whitney, rendered good service in the concerted music; and the precision and delicacy which characterised the execution of the choruses gave unmistakable evidence of the careful training of the executants under their efficient conductor, Mr. Barnby. The next oratorio will be the "Messiah," on Tuesday, the 23rd inst.

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S orchestral concert, at which Herr Joachim will appear, will take place to-morrow evening, the 4th inst., and not the 18th, as announced in error in our last. The performance on the 18th will be unaccompanied sacred music.

THE WELSH LIBERALS.

On Wednesday evening a banquet was held in the Freemasons' Tavern, to celebrate the return of twenty-three Liberal members by Welsh constituencies at the last general election. The Home Secretary, Mr. Bruce, was to have presided at the banquet, but in consequence of having been commanded by the Queen to Osborne, the right hon. gentleman was unable to attend. A letter was read from Mr. Bruce, in the course of which he said:—"I regret this the more as I was very desirous of showing that my recent rejection by a Welsh constituency has not in the slightest degree diminished my interest in the affairs of the Principality, nor my desire to promote the welfare of its inhabitants." (Loud cheers.) In his absence the chair was occupied by Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, M.P., the Under Secretary for the Home Department. As might be expected, the company consisted almost exclusively of gentlemen connected by birth or property with the Principality. The purely national character of the demonstration may be judged from the fact that the list of stewards comprised twenty-two gentlemen of the name of Williams, fourteen of the name of Davies or Davis, and fourteen of the name of Jones.

The usual formal toasts were proposed, and amongst the speakers were Colonel Stepney, M.P., Mr. Tracy, M.P., and Mr. Dillwyn, M.P.

Mr. MORLEY, M.P., who was cordially received, proposed "The Clergy of all Denominations," and in doing so he congratulated the country and the Principality on the progress of Liberal principles. (Cheers.) With regard to the toast entrusted to him—and he represented a city with a large Welsh element—he would only remark that he believed the strength of the Welsh clergy lay in the fact that they lived in the affections of their people. (Hear, hear.) They understood the feelings belonging to the community, and what it suffered, and this led them to sympathise with the sufferers of wrong wherever they found it. When asserting the equal rights of their people they only did what was their duty, and showed their attachment to those principles which, to

an enormous proportion, they professed—Liberalism. They had learnt to follow the maxim to do to others as they would have others do to them. He could not have had a task more acceptable to him than the proposing of this toast.

The toast was responded by the Rev. Mr. ALLEN (a clergyman) and the Rev. Mr. DAVIES. The former said that his presence there that night bore evidence that amongst a few clergymen of the Church of England, Liberal in politics, he was happy to place himself. (Loud applause.) It was not a very easy task in all parts of Wales to be a Liberal, and it was not an easy task in England or London to be a Liberal clergyman.

Mr. MIALL, whose rising called forth loud cheers, said: Ladies and gentlemen, with the permission of the chairman I rise to propose a toast—a comprehensive toast—usually divided into two parts, but combined by special desire this evening (laughter), viz., "The House of Lords and the House of Commons." (Applause.) I am one of those who can with all sincerity propose the toast of the House of Lords, for by the House of Lords is meant a scrutinising assembly. (Laughter.) I am not very familiar with the proceedings of that House, but I must say that when the members of it do give themselves to business, they are as competent as any to transact their business well; but the House of Commons, as a representative assembly, naturally attracts towards itself, and absorbs political power. It is a most industrious assembly, as I can testify. It is an exceedingly talkative assembly, and often talks well. (Laughter.) It is perhaps the most patient assembly in the world, for it listens to what would be listened to nowhere else (laughter); and on the whole I think it may be fairly claimed on its behalf that it is an assembly if anything rather before than behind the general spirit of the people—more especially upon those subjects in which I take a deep and large interest, viz., subjects connected with religious liberty. Gentlemen, upon the whole in the events—I may say triumphant events—which this day is intended to celebrate, Wales has at last, after some period of comparative dumbness and inarticulation, found her tongue. (Loud applause.) True, she speaks yet but imperfectly and in syllables—(Hear, hear,) but next time she exerts herself, I have not the smallest doubt that she will make her influence felt throughout the kingdom—(Hear, hear,) and felt on behalf of Liberal principles; for the Welsh are a Nonconformist people, and a Nonconformist people must of necessity, if they would be at least consistent with their principles, be in politics a Liberal people. (Hear, hear.) Wales has been Liberal, but has not yet consistently manifested her Liberalism. Now, she has begun to do so, I believe her voice will become almost unanimously in the House of Commons after the next election in favour of those great truths comprehended in the Liberal faith. (Applause.) Gentlemen, when I speak of the representation of Wales, I do not speak simply of the representation of her Nonconformity. The time, however, is near at hand, if it has not already arrived, when we shall no longer ask what a man's religious creed may be who presents himself to us as a candidate for our votes. (Hear, hear.) May that time speedily come! It is no desire of mine—I think it could be no desire of yours—that Wales should be, although chiefly a nation of Nonconformists, exclusively represented by Nonconformists. (Hear, hear.) Wales has one representative of Nonconformity, of whom she may well be proud—(loud cheers)—and it will be her duty in future not to seek so limited a representation as a representation only of a politico-ecclesiastical nature, but to seek that kind of representation which will give full expression of her patriotic feelings and sympathies. (Applause.)

The toast was responded to by Lord RICHARD Grosvenor, M.P.

Mr. W. O. STANLEY, M.P., proposed the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers."

The CHAIRMAN, in returning thanks, said that if he had reason before to regret the absence of his right hon. friend, he had still more reason to regret his absence now, as his right hon. friend was far more competent than he was to respond to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers." Of the Government it was not for him to say much. He would only say that he confidently believed in their determination to do their duty in carrying out those Liberal principles under which they had been returned with such a triumphant majority by the country, and to that majority the people of Wales had largely contributed. (Hear, hear.) He had now to propose the toast of "The Liberal Members returned by North and South Wales," and that toast was naturally connected with the toast for which he had returned thanks. In Wales the Liberal party had to contend against large territorial influence, and the weight of old family associations and traditions. But the people of Wales, like other portions of the country, were determined that injustice should be done away with, and that all the subjects of her Majesty should be placed on a footing of perfect equality. (Hear, hear.) They had resolved to give expression to that feeling, and hence it was that so many Liberal members had been returned from the Principality, and that they had met that evening to celebrate the triumph they had achieved. (Hear, hear.) He would only say that if Wales continued to progress, and to act in the next general election as it had acted in the two previous ones, it would stand second to no portion of the United Kingdom. But judging of them by what they had already done, it was quite clear that the inhabitants of Wales were resolved to put an end to intolerance, bigotry, and injustice. (Cheers.)

Mr. TALBOT returned thanks on behalf of South Wales. He supposed he had been selected to return

thanks on the principle that he was one of the oldest Liberal representatives from Wales. The people of Wales had marched with the times, and he had the satisfaction of being able to say that in Glamorgan-shire, which he represented, the six members returned were on the right side. (Loud cheers.) And so it might be said of the entire Principality. He regretted that Mr. Bruce had not been returned for a Welsh constituency, and that he had been compelled to seek in Scotland for a seat which had been denied him in Wales. (Hear, hear.)

The next toast proposed was "The Manufacturing and Commercial Interests of the Principality," proposed by Sir J. RAMSDEN, M.P., responded to by Sir H. H. VIVIAN, M.P.

Mr. BULKLEY HUGHES, M.P., proposed the toast of "The Liverpool Reform Association, and the Electoral Associations of North and South Wales."

Mr. WATKIN WILLIAMS, M.P. for Merionethshire, in responding, said: Much had been said of the success of Liberalism in Wales at the last election, but he believed that not since the Restoration had the constituency which he had the honour to represent returned a Radical. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) He conceived, therefore, that he had a right to speak in the way he had done, because a new feeling, a strong principle, had asserted itself as exemplified in his own person. It was clear, decided, and unequivocal. Therefore, whilst they, the Welshmen who supported the Government—he did not wish to pledge his colleagues, but spoke more especially of his own position—and gave their support independently—(Hear, hear)—they would give no slavish support. He did not believe that Government would wish it. (Hear, hear.) He would not pay the Ministry or themselves the bad compliment of saying that the Welsh members came to support the Liberal Government because they were nominally Liberals. They would listen to the measures they brought forward; they would watch them closely, and would keep them up to the mark. (Laughter, and "Hear, hear.") He had never encouraged the notion, among his supporters that there was to be a "Welsh brigade"—he had never entertained the notion of Welsh interest apart from English interest. He utterly disclaimed it. (Hear, hear.) They were proud to form an integral part of the English nation. They had always shown it, for there was no part of the country more peaceable, more quiet, more subdued than Wales. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. RICHARD, M.P., who was received with loud cheering, proposed the toast of the "Welsh Liberal Press." The hon. gentleman said nothing could be more in accordance with his feeling than the task he had been asked that evening to perform. Welsh newspapers were divided into two classes—viz., those published in the English language, and those published in Welsh. He felt a special interest in the latter, and it might be news to many present that a large current literature did exist in Wales, and that between thirty and forty weekly periodicals were printed, and that not one, except three or four of the feeblest of them, was Tory. (Cheers.) With regard to the late Liberal victory at the last election, if he were asked how that victory had been won, he should say by the power of the popular element. (Hear, hear.) The landlord influence had been just as active at the elections as at any prior ones; but then the people themselves came to the front, and asserted their Liberalism by choosing their own members. The landlords in Wales were very angry at their defeat, and the language they used was like the language of another assembly of defeated heroes recorded in Milton's "Paradise Lost." (Laughter.) They also had been excluded from even a pleasanter place than the House of Commons. The reason the landlords assigned for their defeat was that they had been taken by surprise. He had no doubt they were, but they would find at the next election that their overthrow would be still more complete. (Cheers.) It had been said that the Dissenting Churches in Wales had brought pressure to bear, but he was there to give that statement a most emphatic denial. (Loud cheers.) No doubt, persons found themselves surrounded with a public opinion which they could not prevent, and which they ought not to try to prevent. (Cheers.) But there was a screw—(cheers)—and if the Tory landlords of Wales intended to avail themselves of their powers to oppress their poor tenants they were provoking a power which would recoil upon themselves—(cheers)—and which would make a clean sweep of them altogether. (Renewed cheers.) From the very first, the Tory members of Wales had been against any proposal for advancement in justice and humanity. They opposed reform in the criminal law; they were against the abolition of West Indian slavery; they were against the Reform Bill of 1832; they were against the repeal of the Corn Laws, and they were against the abolition of the taxation on knowledge. (Hear, hear.) Therefore the people said to them, "You may be respectable gentlemen, but 'never more be officers of mine.'" (Cheers.) Here Mr. Richard read a letter which he had just received, stating that at the burial of the late lamented Mr. REES, the incumbent of the parish had absolutely refused to let one of the large number of Dissenting ministers present address the people—(loud cries of "Shame!")—and he (Mr. Richard) now engaged the noble lords and hon. and right hon. gentlemen who were around him to support the measure which would soon be brought into the House of Commons for extending to England and Wales what had already been given to Ireland and Scotland—the right of performing religious services over their deceased members in their own parish churchyard. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. T. GEE, of Denbigh, and Mr. JAMES REES responded. The former said that the Malakoff of Welsh

Conservatism had been undermined, and they might anticipate that the next election would see it razed to its foundation, and the triumph of Liberalism complete. (Applause.) But he warned the Welsh Liberals of the necessity of watchfulness and zeal in the good cause, and of the fact that the territorial magnates of the Principality were mustering their forces and buckling on their armour. He hoped that meeting would cement the Liberal party so as to enable it to present a bold and determined front to the common foe. (Hear, hear.)

A number of other toasts followed, and the meeting did not break up till near midnight.

On Thursday morning, at eleven o'clock, a most numerously and influentially attended meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern to concert measures with regard to political organisation in the Principality. Mr. E. M. Richards, M.P. for Cardiganshire, was called to the chair.

The Rev. W. DAVIES, of Cardiff, moved the first resolution:—

That this meeting wishes to express its satisfaction at the formation of the Welsh Reform Association at Liverpool, and other kindred associations in North and South Wales, and deems that to their efforts in great measure are to be attributed the success attending the late election.

The Principality was to a great extent represented as a country which was a Dissenting country—it was undoubtedly a country of Liberals, and if the people had fairness in voting the voice of Wales would be truly known. Looking at the next election, he conceived they would have to fight very hard. They knew their opponents had already laid their plans with a view to regain lost ground; he, however, trusted that when the next election came Wales would return, not twenty-three, but something like thirty Liberal members.

Mr. O. DAVIES-HUGHES, of Corwen, in seconding the resolution, said he came from Merionethshire, where they had an association there for some time. In that county they had to fight hard, and had lost the battle twice. But at the last election they had better organisation, and this frightened the foe out of the field. In Merionethshire they knew very well that the landlord screw was worked and screwed to the utmost pressure.

The CHAIRMAN eulogised the services of Mr. Harris, of Llechryd.

Mr. HENRY RICHARD, M.P., said he had been told that there was some intention to apply the screw again in Merionethshire and elsewhere, but he was convinced that that was a means which would only recoil upon the users of the screw. The means of their opponents were of a subtle description; their intentions had been indicated by a remarkable meeting held at Penrhyn Hall, Bangor, where a curious kind of politico-religious gathering was convened a few weeks back; the means to be used now was religious zeal stimulated by political motives. (Hear, hear.) It was found now that the poor benighted Welsh have not only souls suspected of having been neglected, but that they have also votes. (Laughter.) Therefore machinery was to be set at work to convert Dissenters, not so much to Christianity—for they were held to be bastard Christians—but to Toryism, in order that their votes might be secured. It was requisite to counteract such designs as these. His conviction was that if there was perfect freedom of voting, not only would there be no Tory, but no fickle and doubtful Liberal returned, and he saw no reason why Wales should not send up not twenty-three Liberal members but thirty-three; and if, as he trusted before long, the ballot would be carried—(Hear, hear)—there were indications that the ballot would be carried ere long—not the least, the avowal of the right hon. chairman of the previous evening's banquet, had made an avowal which, though given without the consent of his colleagues in office, derived some significance, and encouraged a hope that the Government would support a measure designed for the protection of the voter. (Hear, hear.)

After a prolonged discussion, the following resolution was agreed upon:—

That each constituency in North and South Wales be requested to form an association to attend to their registration and electoral interests; that the Welsh Reform Association should be requested to give assistance in North Wales when it might be considered it would be best afforded by the Central Association; that the association in South Wales be requested to afford like assistance for constituencies in South Wales.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

BILLS BEFORE PARLIAMENT.

ELECTION EXPENSES.—Mr. Fawcett's bill proposes to charge upon the county or borough rate "the expenses lawfully incurred by the returning officers in Parliamentary elections for the provision of hustings, poll-clerks, polling-booths or rooms, and any other necessary requisites for the conduct of the election." But every unsuccessful candidate who shall not poll one-fifth of the total number of electors voting is to be liable—in the same way as if this bill had not passed—for his share of such expenses; and if such candidate is nominated without his consent, the proposer and seconder are to be liable for such share.

SUNDAY TRADING.—Mr. Thomas Hughes' bill now in the House of Commons is the same as the bill of last session, with the additional clause to the effect that the Act of Charles II. is not meant to be repealed by this bill. The bill prohibits, under penalties, the sale or delivery of goods on Sunday with the following exceptions:—The sale of any article for medicinal purposes; the sale of milk or cream before ten a.m. or after 1 p.m.; the sale, without public cry, of meat, fish, poultry, game, or vegetables before nine a.m., or of periodical publica-

tions before ten a.m., or of pastry, fruit, or any beverage which may lawfully be sold without a licence, before ten a.m. or after one p.m. The bill is not to apply to the exercise of the ordinary business of a baker, licensed victualler, or keeper of an inn, tavern, hotel, or public-house, nor to the exercise of the ordinary business of a cookshop, eating-house, or coffee-house before ten a.m. or after one p.m. The bill is only to apply to England, and not to any town containing less than 10,000 persons at the census.

PERMISSIVE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW.—The text of a bill prepared by Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Mr. Baskley, and Mr. Dalway, the object of which is to enable owners and occupiers of property in certain districts to prevent the common sale of intoxicating liquors, has been published. The bill proposes to give the right to a certain number of ratepayers in any municipal borough or parish to require the mayor in the one case, and overseers of the poor in the other, to take the votes of the whole body as to the propriety of bringing into operation the provisions of this measure; and prescribes the manner in which the votes are to be taken. Every person rated to the relief of the poor and entitled to vote at the election of guardians is to be considered qualified to vote on the issue thus raised. Two-thirds of the aggregate number of votes recorded will be necessary for the adoption of the Act. In the event of the measure being rejected twelve months must intervene before the proposal can be made a second time; but if it be adopted, at least three years must elapse before the ratepayers have power to reconsider their decision, or to give effect to it by another vote. The adoption of the measure would involve the total suppression of the liquor-traffic within the limits prescribed after the expiration of the existing licences. Of course penalties are provided to meet the case of any breach of the prohibitory law, and for the fabrication of voting papers.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen, and the other members of the Royal family who have been staying with her Majesty at Osborne, returned to Windsor on Friday.

On Sunday the Rev. Charles Kingsley, one of her Majesty's chaplains in ordinary, preached before the Queen and Court.

It is understood that her Majesty will, early in the present season, pay a visit to the east end of London, for the purpose of seeing Victoria Park, and of inspecting the various improvements recently effected by the philanthropy of Miss Burdett Coutts in Bethnal-green.

On Friday the Princess Christian gave birth to a son, at Frogmore. Her Royal Highness and her child are both doing well.

It is arranged that the Prince of Wales will prolong his absence from home until the first week in May. As the difficulty between Turkey and Greece is now settled, the Prince will resume his project of paying visits to the Sultan and the King of Greece, provided that diplomatic relations are speedily re-established between the two countries.

Prince Arthur, having completed his course at Woolwich, will shortly join the Rifle Brigade in Canada.

Lord Derby has accepted the office of patron of the National Union of the Constitutional Association.

Relative to the purchase of the electric telegraphs, the *Observer* says there has never been any intention on the part of the Government to depart from the arrangement already sanctioned by Parliament. The authorities at the Post-office are constantly engaged in making arrangements for the transfer of the business of the various companies, and a very confident opinion is expressed that before the close of the present session the telegraphs of the United Kingdom will be in the hands and under the control of the Government.

It is stated that Captain Moncrieff's admirable battery system has been adopted by the Government, and that he is to have a liberal reward for his ingenuity and perseverance—15,000*l.* for his invention and 1,000*l.* a year, dating from two years ago, so long as he is engaged in the application of his system.

Mr. Verdon, the agent general for the colony of Victoria, has, upon instructions from Melbourne, arranged the preliminaries for the establishment of a monthly line of steamers to run between England and Melbourne, to carry emigrants.

The death is announced of Sir John Johnstone, M.P. for Scarborough, from the effects of a recent hunting accident.

Viscount Gough died yesterday morning at St. Helen's, near Dublin, in the ninetyeth year of his age. Lord Gough's name will be long remembered in connection with the victories of Moodkee, Ferozeshah, and Sobraon.

Miscellaneous News.

The prosecution against two of the directors of the Merchants Company, charged with issuing a circular with the alleged intention of deceiving the shareholders, has fallen through.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, CALEDONIAN-ROAD, N.—Number of patients for the week ending Feb. 27, 1,366, of which 489 were new cases.

RATING OF SCHOOLS AND CHARITIES.—A committee has been formed in London, the chairman of which is Mr. Reed, M.P., for the purpose of taking immediate action for the exemption of Sunday and ragged

schools from the poor-rates. The draft of a bill to be brought into Parliament has been prepared, and steps are being taken to get petitions ready for general signature.

THE CLAIMANT TO THE TICHBORNE BARONETCY.—We (*Star*) are informed that this gentleman, instead of having been massacred by Indians, or having gone in quest of a gold mine in the interior of South America (reports which found currency in the public journals a few days ago), has returned to England. His friends report that the result of the commission is "satisfactory." We understand that the action will be tried on the earliest possible day, and that the plaintiff and his friends are anxious to bring it to an issue.

TYPHUS VICTIMS.—Typhus fever seems to be relentlessly claiming for its victims at the present time many members of our profession. Several cases in point have been recorded in our columns during recent weeks, and now a sad tale is told in Ratcliff of two gentlemen, Drs. Orton and Arnold, who have succumbed to the fatal disease, caught during their attendance upon the sick. Dr. Arnold, in trying to administer a certain medicine to a poor foreigner stricken with typhus, seems to have been bespattered with the saliva coughed out by the sick man, and to that he attributed his death. The consciousness of impending sickness appears from the moment of that occurrence to have taken possession of his mind. Another practitioner in the neighbourhood has been seriously ill from typhus.—*Lancet*.

LIBERAL BANQUET AT BRISTOL.—On Thursday evening the Bristol Liberal Association celebrated their victory at the recent election by a dinner, at which about 1,100 persons were present, including Mr. S. Morley, M.P., Mr. Mundella, M.P., and Mr. H. Richard, M.P.; Mr. H. Berkeley, the senior member for the borough, being absent through indisposition. Mr. Richard thought the new House of Commons was an improvement upon its predecessor, as comprising a greater number of earnest men, but that there was still too much of the old leaven remaining. Mr. Mundella gave credit to the present Government for being bent upon performing the special work upon which the country had recently decided, and also upon providing protection for voters, and repressing corruption and impurity at elections. Mr. Morley attributed the success of the Liberal cause in Bristol mainly to the newly-enfranchised working men, in recognition of whose support he should feel bound to support the Government in their efforts to establish religious equality, economical government, and an efficient national system of education. Upon the subject of compulsion in connection with education he had some hesitation, but there was a general feeling that something decisive must be done to promote that great national end, a sound education for all classes of the community. The proceedings were very enthusiastic throughout.

UNEQUAL PRESSURE OF POOR-RATES.—The poor-rates of the metropolis in the parochial year 1867-68 were as follows:—In the north district they amounted to 1*l.* 7*d.* in the pound at Hampstead, 1*l.* 7*d.* in St. Marylebone, 1*l.* 6*d.* in St. Pancras, 1*l.* 4*d.* at Hackney, 1*l.* 0*d.* at Islington. In the west district, the amount was 1*l.* 9*d.* at Chelsea, 1*l.* 7*d.* at Fulham, 1*l.* 6*d.* in St. Margaret's and St. John's (Westminster), 1*l.* 2*d.* in St. James's, 1*l.* 0*d.* in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 11*d.* at Kensington, 8*d.* in St. George's Hanover-square, and 7*d.* at Paddington. In the south district, 11*d.* at Lewisham, 1*l.* 1*d.* at Wandsworth and Clapham, 1*l.* 7*d.* at Clamberwell, 1*l.* 8*d.* in Lambeth, 1*l.* 9*d.* in Bermondsey, 1*l.* 9*d.* in St. Olave's (Southwark), 2*l.* 1*d.* in Saviour's, 2*l.* 1*d.* in Rotherhithe, 2*l.* 2*d.* at Greenwich, 2*l.* 8*d.* at Newington, 2*l.* 11*d.* in St. George's, Southwark. In the Central district the amount was only 7*d.* in the city 2*l.* 11*d.* in West London, and 3*l.* 1*d.* in East London, 1*l.* 11*d.* in Bloomsbury, 2*l.* 1*d.* in Holborn, 2*l.* 1*d.* in Clerkenwell, 2*l.* 6*d.* in St. Luke's, 2*l.* 7*d.* in the Strand. Last comes the unfortunate east district. The year's poor-rates amounted to 3*l.* 11*d.* in Bethnal-green, 3*l.* 7*d.* in Stepney, 3*l.* 5*d.* in St. George's-in-the-East, 3*l.* 4*d.* in Whitechapel, 2*l.* 9*d.* in Shoreditch, 2*l.* 6*d.* in Poplar, 2*l.* in Mile-end Old Town. The range is from 7*d.* in the city and Paddington to 3*l.* 11*d.* (or nearly seven times seven-pence) in Bethnal-green.

THE FUNERAL OF DR. EPPS.—The remains of Dr. Epps were interred on Friday week at Kensal-green, in the presence of a number of his personal and political friends, among whom we noticed, in addition to the members of his family, Mr. James Stansfeld, M.P., Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., Mr. Edward Miall, Mr. W. H. Ashurst, Mr. W. A. Case, Captain Walhouse, Mr. R. Moore, &c. The service was impressively conducted by the Rev. James Massie, D.D., commencing with an appropriate psalm and prayer, followed by an address, from which we condense a few particulars, forming a slight epitome of the life of the deceased:—The late Dr. Epps took his degree of M.D. in Edinburgh, at twenty-one years of age, before which time he had published several works on literary and scientific subjects. Immediately afterwards he came to London, and commenced practice as a physician; lecturing also to London to medical students on the "Materia Medica," &c. Some leading men of the present day were his pupils. He now published other well-known works; and engaged in every patriotic movement for advancing religious, political, and commercial freedom. He was ever ready to countenance the progress and advocacy of Liberalism, not waiting for others, but prompt to retire when the cause was prospering. Very early his principles and sympathies were enlisted for the American slaves; he was a member of the Emancipation Society of London, and of the Union and Emancipation Society of Man-

chester; he also supported the Jamaica Committee. Very early in life he embraced the principles of the Nonconformists; he resisted the payment of Church-rates, and suffered distrait. He was a hearty worker in the Liberation Society. After practising for some years the old system of medicine, his attention being directed to homoeopathy, he studied the new system with all the earnestness of his nature, and, once convinced of its truth, he ever after practised it, and sought by all means in his power to spread its doctrines. His works on homoeopathy, and on many medical subjects, are well known. He was a popular lecturer on botany, physiology, phrenology, and kindred topics. He was ever distinguished by his love of truth and justice, by a childlike simplicity, and by a tenderness which he extended to the meanest created being. He had no petty jealousy or envy, and was severe against systems only. He was much beloved by his patients, almost all of whom became his personal friends. His love of God and confidence in Him never failed, and he constantly aimed at carrying out all that he believed to be His will. In the midst of his sufferings, during the last few days of his existence, the beauties of his character were strongly marked, and left an impression never to be effaced. His end was peace.

Obituary.

THE REV. EVAN LEWIS, B.A., F.R.G.S., &c.
(From a Correspondent.)

On Thursday last a most appropriate and impressive service was conducted at Abney Park Cemetery by the Revs. Henry Allen and Dr. Raleigh, on the occasion of the funeral of the Rev. Evan Lewis, late minister of Offord-road Chapel, in many respects a rare and gifted man. In very early life his character and ability attracted the attention of his pastor, a man well known and justly esteemed in the Principality—the Rev. Evan Jones (Jeuau Gwynedd). He was accordingly invited by him and by the Church to exercise his gifts as a preacher, with a view of becoming a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. With a very determined purpose he set himself to the task of preparing himself for the ministry, and it became the passion of his life. He aimed at high things. He earnestly desired a thorough education, and in order that he might not be burdensome to his friends, he started upon a lecturing tour (while yet a mere lad) through various towns in South Wales in order to raise funds necessary for his preparation for college. He soon after became the pupil of the Rev. Isaac Watts, of Boston, from whose house he passed into Airedale College, under the presidency of the Rev. Walter Scott.

His college career was one of great brilliancy and success, especially in mathematical and philosophical studies. He graduated B.A. of the London University in 1852, and also passed the Hebrew and Scripture examination, at the same University, in 1853.

In 1855 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, and of the Entomological Society of London. His habit of diligent study never left him, so that he became a first-rate Greek and Hebrew scholar and critic. He was a very able mathematician, and had a thorough knowledge of music; while, next to his own sacred work, science, especially in the branches of geology and chemistry, was the delight of his life.

A man of great natural endowments, of large and varied culture, he was also a very careful expounder of Divine truth—a man singularly fitted to serve the Church of Christ at this age. His mind being essentially of a scientific cast, he submitted less to the rule of authority than to the judgment of reason. He carefully examined for himself all phases of Christian doctrine, and once having settled his convictions, no man was more able or ready to "give a reason for the hope that was in him."

As a preacher there was a striking combination of earnestness and tenderness in his manner. His sermons were fresh, thoughtful, terse in style, and always marked by great spiritual beauty. His course, during a ministry of fifteen years, was uniformly successful, and highly appreciated by all who knew him; and, judged by the wonderful impression which he produced in his short ministry at Offord-road, his discourses must have been very fascinating, powerful, and impressive.

He had all through life to battle, more or less, with delicacy of health and constitution. Yet, when he came to London to a warm-hearted and admiring people, in the maturity of his powers, he thirsted for years of service and usefulness in his Master's cause. But early in January his strength failed, and to his own great grief, as well as that of his friends, he was laid aside from his work.

The night before he departed he repeated the words, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom," and then in pain and a kind of wonder, added, "Why should I be left so long wandering up and down when the gates of the city are always open? Lord, take me in!" His great favourite psalm was the 46th. He rested and rejoiced greatly in it. "Read to me," he would say, "those sweet words once more; if all the Bible were lost I could venture all worlds on that psalm!" He then repeated "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," &c., and went off into a kind of monologue, of which only the first words could be caught about "man's strange misconceptions of God," &c. He was only forty-three years of age when he died, and he leaves behind a widow and four children.

We understand that the friends at Offord-road are generously providing for their relief.

Literature.

LORD CAMPBELL'S LIFE OF BROUGHAM.*

SECOND NOTICE.

If there is less apparent bitterness in Lord Campbell's treatment of Brougham than of Lyndhurst, this is hardly to be traced to the existence of a more kindly feeling towards the one than the other, but rather to the fact that the eccentricities of the former furnish so strong a *prima facie* case against him that there is less necessity for an unfriendly critic to betray his animus. We scarcely feel, however, that we are doing right in attributing to Lord Campbell any feeling of personal antagonism to either of his great contemporaries. It would rather seem as if, in his boundless self-complacency, he had constituted himself into a judge who, from his position of moral and intellectual superiority, is entitled to pronounce his awards and sustain them by facts, or what he believes to be facts. There is a vein of cynicism which runs through all his judgments, but so far from there being any special enmity against the two Chancellors, they really fare much better than most of their contemporaries, and especially the Whig lawyers who might be regarded as Lord Campbell's rivals. It is clear enough that he expected to have been made Chancellor himself in 1835, when Lord Melbourne resolved not to allow Brougham to resume his old position, and though he endeavours to make the best of the disappointment, and ascribes it to the fear entertained by the Government of Brougham's opposition, since such a step "would have instantly thrown him into a paroxysm of fury," there can be no doubt that "plain John Campbell" would have faced the fury, if he could only have got the Great Seal; and that he did not easily get over the supposed slight put upon him. Hence the depreciatory style of his references to the Commission to whom the Great Seal was for a time intrusted, and to all the Whig Chancellors who stood between him and the cherished object of his ambition. He was perhaps not likely to understand what all the world beside saw, that no Government in 1835, or for many years afterwards, could safely have ventured to place the industrious and plodding, but not very brilliant Scotch lawyer, who by sheer perseverance and well-calculated fidelity to his party had risen to be Attorney-General, in the high position his ambition so eagerly coveted. It is a pity, however, for his own memory, rather than for theirs, that he has not shown more generosity in his criticisms on those who seemed to stand in his way. Lord Cottenham was one of the most efficient Chancellors we have had for many years, but the utmost Lord Campbell can say for him is, "Lord Cottenham had got on as 'Chancellor better than was expected. He proved to be an exceedingly good equity judge, and while Brougham was absent he had performed tolerably in the House of Lords. But the Lord Chancellor was now in a state of great alarm, and not without reason: despising Brougham's law, he stood in cruel awe of his sarcasms, and would rather have submitted to any insult than enter into a personal encounter." This is one of those very pregnant sentences, for the construction of which our author shows so much aptitude—in which he manages to deal two or three different blows at once. But Cottenham fares well by the side of Lord Langdale, who was, we are told, appointed Master of the Rolls, and raised to the peerage, under the belief, due to a story told by Sir John Cam Hobhouse, that he would prove a match for Brougham. Lord Campbell records his discomfiture with special gusto.

"Lord Langdale, M.R., was more to be pitied. During the negotiation for his promotion it had been kept a strict secret from him that he was expected to be the champion of the Government against Brougham. In truth, he had no taste for public display. He would have preferred the Rolls without a peerage, and he never would have accepted a peerage upon the condition of becoming a rhetorical gladiator. He did not know what was expected of him till he had actually taken his seat on the Barons' bench, when he could not unpeer himself. He was then in a state of great consternation, for 'he would as soon have met the devil as Harry Brougham.' He was unspeakably relieved for a time by the non-attendance of his adversary. Thus was he induced to try to speak on the second reading of the 'Great Seal Partition Bill,' and his break-down was partly ascribed to a practical joke, in the shape of a rumour circulated through the House that Brougham had arrived in London and was hurrying to the House. Now, when he heard that Brougham actually had arrived, and would regularly attend in his place, he laid down a resolution to which he strictly adhered, that during the session he would remain silent, contenting

himself, upon a division, with supporting the Government either by his vote or his proxy."

On Lord Cottenham's resignation, we are naively told that Lord John Russell knew that "he need not make the offer to the Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, who, since his promotion, had openly declared his resolution 'to refuse the Great Seal if offered to him.' (*credat Judæus*); but not the less is Lord Truro, who was then promoted, made to look ridiculous on the ground that "he knew as little of the 'law of Scotland as of that of Japan,'" and was thus unable to grapple with Brougham, who had in fact usurped the Chancellor's appellate jurisdiction. What would have come of the new Chancellor if left to himself does not appear, but the threatening danger was averted by the interposition of Campbell, to whom Brougham owed the one check he received at the time. Lord Cranworth is described as "meek and pliable," and in 1857 our author, who owed everything to the Whig party, who had more than once compromised themselves in their readiness to serve him, coalesced with his old opponent Lyndhurst, in order to oppose him who "again, without having consulted us," had introduced certain measures. But, perhaps, of all his legal opponents, Campbell disliked Sugden most, though he is compelled to confess his ability; and we have no doubt that when the latter publishes his promised explanations, it will be found that the hatred was thoroughly reciprocated. The following story is mainly intended to disparage Sugden, though, of course, two others are hit by the same arrow:—

"In the Court of Chancery, where Brougham was quite a novice, he had counted upon support and assistance from Horne, now Attorney-General, an equity counsel of some reputation, whom, with this view, he had appointed a law officer of the Crown; but that speculation turned out most unfortunate. Mr. Attorney was opposed by Sugden, a Tory lawyer infinitely superior to him in capacity and acquirement, and eager, for personal and political reasons, to expose the inexperience of the Whig Lord Chancellor. One contest between them, in which the learned counsel was compared by the Lord High Chancellor in plain terms to a bug, gave rise to many newspaper paragraphs and many caricatures, and is now sometimes alluded to when he has become an ex-Chancellor."

In a footnote he adds:—

"The *Times* of 28th July, 1832, suggested another comparison not quite so contemptuous for this enemy of the Lord Chancellor: Has Sir Edward Sugden no friend to tell him that the cock-sparrow cannot contend with the eagle?"

That Lord Brougham was not properly understood or fairly estimated by his biographer cannot certainly occasion any surprise. Two men more utterly dissimilar or less likely to appreciate one another it would not be easy to find. Perhaps some would say that they occupied much the same relation to each other as Brougham and Sugden in the story just quoted. But though the versatile and erratic character of Brougham's genius, his tendency to intermeddle with all kinds of wisdom while he made himself absolute master of none, his restless and excitable nature, and his contempt for the most obvious considerations of prudence, must have appeared very strange in the eyes of so sober and calculating a gentleman as our "cannie Scot," there are some incidents recorded here, as in the *Life of Lord Lyndhurst*, which we might have expected would induce a lenient treatment, even of his faults. Even in the days when Campbell was pushing his way to the front, Brougham appears to have treated him with great kindness, and though afterwards they had their dissensions, their relations were generally friendly. They visited one another, and though, according to the very agreeable picture which our author draws, each joined Lyndhurst in reviling the other behind his back, they seem to have been on familiar terms. One of the last things in the volume is a letter from Lord Brougham to the Chief Justice, in relation to the way in which he was libelled after the Palmer trial. We find, however, no indication that any of these reminiscences exercised a restraining influence upon Lord Campbell, or hindered him from dwelling on the faults of his quondam friend.

There is no career of modern times so disappointing as that of Lord Brougham, none in which the performance contrasts so strikingly with the promise, or in which abilities so great produced results so small. Henry Brougham, chosen member for Yorkshire by the voice of the people in opposition to mighty territorial influence, the hero of a great popular triumph at a time when such a triumph was far more rare and remarkable than it would be now, the eloquent champion of the cause of freedom and right, the defender of an injured queen, the advocate of the enslaved negro, the hope of the party of progress, had a position such as few, if any, have attained in our modern history. It needed only self-control, loyalty to truth and

right, a consistent perseverance in the course on which he had entered, for him to have secured the highest distinction in his own time and an honourable place in the history of his country. But these were the very qualities he lacked. He was carried to and fro by strong impulses, intoxicated by the success he had won, with a vanity and egotism which was continually exposing him to the laughter of his foes, and a waywardness which prevented his friends from reposing any confidence in him. Seldom has rise been so rapid, or fall so sudden, complete, and inextricable, and the most unfortunate part of it was that while on his first exclusion from office there were some to sympathise with him, he contrived ere long to make it universally felt that one of the ablest men of the time was unavailable for the public service. His strange alliance with Lord Lyndhurst, leading to a virulent and unscrupulous opposition to the Whig Ministry for which even his own wrongs were not sufficient excuse—his forgetfulness of his old principles and professions—his extraordinary freaks, among which perhaps the most remarkable was his application to the Provisional Government for the rights of French citizenship, issuing in an ignominious repulse that provoked universal ridicule and contempt, amply justified those who declined to trust him with office and responsibility in the later years of his life.

Still we cannot forget that Henry Brougham was sinned against as well as sinning. He is an example, and one of the most remarkable, of the inability of the Whigs to profit by great talent even when it is enlisted on their side. From the first the party treated him shabbily, as if afraid that the titled nobodies whom they put at the head of their forces should be cast into the shade by the merits of the illustrious recruit who had joined their ranks. They delayed his entrance into Parliament until they could do it no longer, and when Camelford, for which he first sat, had passed into the hands of another owner and was no more open to him, he was excluded from the House for nearly four years. And this, though he had in the brief period during which he was in Parliament, imparted a new life to the Opposition, and shown capacity for the highest position, and though he had fought the Whig battle at Liverpool with a gallantry which deserved a very different treatment. His colleague in the contest, a Mr. Creevey, had a seat found for him; but Brougham, the ablest man of the party, was left out in the cold. He came in again in 1816, and contributed materially by his energy and eloquence during the tedious years of Opposition to the Whig victories of 1830, but if it had been possible, he would have been deprived of the prize he had fairly won. It is true his conduct in office was rash, hotheaded, and most damaging to his party as well as to himself, but even Lord Campbell is obliged to admit that Lord Melbourne's treatment of him, after the defeat of Sir Robert Peel and the return of the Whig party to power in 1835, was "atrocious." If we were not afraid of seeming to be infected by his own spirit, we might ask how far his lordship's sense of the atrocity was enhanced by the fact that he was not himself raised to the Woolsack; but, be that as it may, most people will agree in the judgment he has expressed. We have no wish to exonerate Brougham from the censures to which he is fairly open, but, at the same time, we are confirmed by this memoir, which is certainly not written by one prejudiced in his favour, in the belief that more generous conduct on the part of his Whig associates might have kept him from falling into many errors and made his life a greater power for the advancement of those great principles, for which in early life he seemed destined to achieve so much.

But whatever opinion we may form as to the soundness of the author's judgment, or in some cases, as to his accuracy in the statement of facts, the prominent part played by Lord Brougham for nearly half a century makes the memoir extremely valuable. The history of the period immediately preceding their own is, even with many educated men, a subject of which they know very little; and a book which revives the recollections of their own boyhood, and introduces them to a fuller acquaintance with transactions and characters hitherto known only by newspaper accounts or party traditions, has for them a peculiar charm. The fierce party struggles to which George IV.'s treatment of his consort led; the still more bitter and passionate strife waged round the first Reform Bill; the internal dissensions of the Grey Ministry, culminating in the once notorious Edinburgh banquet and the feud between Lords Brougham and Durham; the protracted struggle which issued in the victory of Sir Robert Peel, and as a consequence, the collapse of the old Tory party, are only some of the points on which we

Lives of Lord Lyndhurst and Lord Brougham, Lord Chancellors and Keepers of the Great Seal of England. By the late JOHN LORD CAMPBELL, LL.D., F.R.S.E. (London: Murray.)

get fresh information from the volume. How far we are to trust all the political gossip which is here retailed it is not easy to say, but there is a certain interest attaching to these old rumours, and there is quite enough of undoubted fact to give the memoir value. It is from the comparison of these records of individual recollections that the future historian will decipher the true story of the period, and though the account is strongly biased, the bias is so evident as to prevent any keen-sighted man from reposing implicit trust in all the statements. We know not whether the following account of one of Brougham's performances in the days of his Chancellorship ought not to be taken *cum grano*, but the story is certainly characteristic alike of him and his biographer. It is necessary to say that Sir John Campbell, the Attorney-General, was out of Parliament at the time.

"In the mean time great alarm was created by a bill of a very preposterous nature upon the Law of Libel, brought into the House of Commons by O'Connell. He was then very hostile to the Government, and his object was to propose enactments *ad captandum*, such as putting an end to all proceedings by 'information,' whether under the authority of the Attorney-General or the Court of King's Bench,—so that the 'base and bloody Whigs' might be still farther damaged by being driven to oppose what he called 'salutary reform.' Brougham being then very unwell, a meeting of the Cabinet was held at his house in Berkeley-square, which was attended by the Attorney and Solicitor General. The result of their deliberation was, that instead of attacking General O'Connell, in front there should be a flank movement which would effectually defeat him. A motion was to be made for a committee to inquire into the 'Law of Libel.' The difficulty was that this motion could, under existing circumstances, only be made by Mr. Solicitor, and he having spent his life in drawing 'bills and answers,' professed an entire ignorance of the subject. Brougham then, in a very lucid manner, stated the topics to be treated, the manner of treating them, and the order in which they should be introduced, and—Mr. Solicitor still looking unhappy—he added, 'Should you like to have a sketch upon paper of your speech?' This offer was gratefully accepted, and the Chancellor, though in a very weak state of health and with judgments in arrear which he was very desirous of writing, must have employed some hours in preparing a brief for Mr. Solicitor. This learned functionary, when the evening for his motion arrived, delivered a speech on the Law of Libel which called forth cheers and applause from all sides of the House. But the committee being granted, the subject dropped for the Session; and, as he never again spoke in the House of Commons so as to attract notice, if he had not been destined to immortality as Lord High Chancellor and Earl of Cottenham, he might have gone down to future ages as 'Single-Speech Pepsy.'"

Of Lord Brougham's fearlessness in his best days, when as yet he had not begun to "gloze," we have here a good example:—

"About this time he resented in a very marked manner what he considered a piece of impertinence in H.B.H. the Duke of Cumberland, afterwards King of Hanover. While the Chancellor was addressing the House very calmly and very much to the purpose, the Duke called out, 'Question, question.' Chancellor in *furor*: 'I ask your lordships whether there is decency in that call?' Not contented with this expression of resentment, he lay by for an opportunity of still further punishing the Royal delinquent, and soon after, speaking on the Slavery Abolition Bill, he said:—

"It would give the man of colour as clear a right to sit in that House (if his Majesty should so please) as either of the illustrious Dukes now present [Wellington and Cumberland], whether the illustrious Duke who is illustrious by his deeds, or the illustrious Duke who is illustrious by the courtesy of the House."

At the time of the secession of the "Derby dilly" from the Whig Cabinet, Sir John Campbell was in Edinburgh, contesting the seat vacated by Jeffrey, and we have therefore only this brief sketch of the event:—

"When I had been about eight days in Edinburgh I was knocked out of bed at four in the morning and told that a King's messenger had arrived from London with a letter from the Lord Chancellor, which I must read immediately. I have not preserved it, but I believe that it ran as follows:—

"Dear Jack,—Ned Stanley, Graham, Richmond, and Rippy have left us. But be not alarmed. We shall go on better without them. This you must inculcate upon the modern Athenians. Persevere. I really believe that we are safe. You shall know all when we meet."

"H. B."
"The messenger likewise brought a letter from the Secretary to the Treasury stating that the Colonial Secretary, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Postmaster-General, and the President of the Board of Trade had resigned—that all the other members of the Cabinet remained steady, and that in this crisis everything might depend upon carrying Edinburgh. At dawn of day there was a handbill posted all over the city, congratulating the electors on the secession of the fugitive Ministers, and extolling those who remained true to the cause of freedom—particularly the Lord Chancellor, who, born and bred among them, reflected such credit on his 'own romantic town.'"

"When I returned to London victorious, he complimented me on having saved the State; but he did not enter into any particulars of the disruption of the Cabinet, and I have never heard from any authentic source what part he personally took upon this occasion."

We must content ourselves with one more extract relating to Brougham's quarrel with the *Times*, which once had been his chief eulogist:—

"But he had now a private quarrel with Barnes the editor, who thought himself slighted by him, and he was first attacked for his speech in support of the new Poor Law, against which Mr. Walter, the chief proprietor of the newspaper, had a strong prejudice, and

which the newspaper continued for years systematically and vehemently to oppose.

"But what completed the rupture and made it irreparable was Brougham's carelessness in allowing to come to the knowledge of the *Times*, the following 'secret and confidential' letter he received one morning when sitting on the bench in the Court of Chancery in Lincoln's Inn Hall.

"Dear Brougham,—
"What I want to see you about is the *Times*, whether we are to make war on it or come to terms."

"Yours ever,

"ALTHORP."

"This Brougham read during the argument,—answered immediately and tore up—throwing away the fragments. These fragments were picked up by a shorthand writer, put together and carried next day to the office of the *Times*. It so happened that this very day some information which the editor asked from the Government was abruptly refused. The inference drawn was that by the Chancellor's advice a determination had been formed by the Government to make war on the *Times*, and the *Times* determined to make war upon Brougham, sparing for a while at least the main body of his colleagues. Accordingly, while a general support was given to Lord Melbourne's Government, a series of bitter attacks began upon the devoted Chancellor."

"THE NORTHERN HEIGHTS OF LONDON."

No quarter of London has more interesting associations than that which Mr. William Howitt has chosen as the subject of this most happily conceived and happily written book. Scarcely any person can walk through Hampstead, Highgate, Muswell-hill, Hornsey, or Islington—the districts which are embraced within this work—without almost hearing the footfalls of the illustrious dead. Mr. Howitt, with vivid pen, tells you exactly where they lived, and sometimes almost recalls them again to life. For ourselves, after having read, and partly re-read, all that Mr. Howitt has to tell us, the "northern heights" will possess a nearer and more human interest than they have ever before possessed.

About one-half of this book is taken up with the historical associations of Hampstead; and although other districts might perhaps say that justice has not been done to them, and Hackney and Stoke Newington might complain, as they ought, of being left out altogether, nobody will feel that too much space has been devoted to this, the first section. What a net-full of historical associations has Mr. Howitt swept together! Old monks of Westminster, Wolsey, the Baptist Noels, Pepys, Steele, Addison, Swift, Johnson, Erskine, Leigh Hunt, Keats, Shelley, Mackintosh,—all these were once connected with Hampstead. You may still see some of the houses in which they lived, and go into the rooms where they wrote, and take the very walks under the very trees which they once took. Here is one of its associations,—a personal reminiscence of Keats:—

"Hence, in his 'Table-book,' says, 'Hampstead is the place of groves'; how long it may remain so is a secret in the bosom of speculators and builders. Its first grove toward is the noble private avenue from Hampstead-road to Belzize House, in the valley between Primrose-hill and the hill where the church stands, with the Memory Corner, Thompson's remarkable house and lodge, at the corner of the pleasant highway to the village of West-end. In the neighbourhood of Hampstead Church, and between that edifice and the Heath, are several old groves. Winding southwardly from the Heath there is a charming little grove in Well-walk, with a bench at the end, whereon I last saw poor Keats, the poet of the 'Pot of Basil,' sitting and sobbing his dying breath into a handkerchief, glancing parting looks towards the quiet landscape he had delighted in musing, as in his 'Ode to the Nightingale.' This little incident of one of the farewell looks of John Keats on the earth, as he faded away, and 'left the world unseen,' will always confer an interest on the seat in the avenue at the end of Well-walk."

Mr. Howitt informs us that wolves were once the principal inhabitants of this fashionable suburb, and after them washerwomen. Highwaymen used to be met on the heath and at Golder's Green. The walk between those two places was, if we recollect rightly, Leigh Hunt's favourite walk, but even that is not what it used to be, not perhaps as Mr. Howitt himself last saw it, for on one side of this road bricks cover the site of the trees which used to make this one of the prettiest walks or drives in England. There was also a time when Hampstead Wells were almost as fashionable as Tunbridge Wells. The old "Assembly Room" still stands. Mr. Howitt has made, as he always does, skilful use of the references to the life which, here, was once the mode, but how is it that he has overlooked "Roderick Random," which would have supplied him with many other illustrations? It strikes us, as it has evidently struck the author, that the notice of Erskine is unconscionably long. In our judgment Mackintosh is entitled to quite as much space in a work of this kind and in history as Erskine, but here there is a

* *The Northern Heights of London; or, Historical Associations of Hampstead, Highgate, Muswell-hill, Hornsey, and Islington.* By WILLIAM HOWITT, Author of "Visits to Remarkable Places." (Longmans.)

whole biography of Erskine, occupying twenty pages, while Mackintosh is dismissed with open contempt, in less than a dozen lines. Want of "perspective," in fact, is the fault of this book, if it have a fault. Great men are treated as small, and small as great. Is it fair that Leigh Hunt, Shelley, Keats, and all that glorious company, should not have as much notice as—save the mark—John Sadleir, to whom Mr. Howitt devotes nine mortal pages? But it is almost impossible to complain of Mr. Howitt in anything; you would as soon hit your best friend; and now that we have complained we wish we had not, only we do not see how we could have helped it. Let us, therefore, dismiss Hampstead by saying that, whoever goes there, and whoever lives there, should never in future go or live unless in company with Mr. Howitt.

We must say just the same of Highgate. Is there anything about Whittington and his stone here? Yes there is, and a good deal that the reader is not likely to have known before he has read this book. Then, of course, there are Cromwell and Ireton and Marvell. Cromwell's house, bearing his name, built by him for Ireton, is now being altered and changed, and if any one wishes to see it as it was he should go this very week. But Marvell's house is as it was, "and," says Mr. Howitt, "you can look at it, and take note what sort of a house an honest man and a patriot may expect," which means that it is not a remarkably good one. This, depend upon it, will not last long, for, as the author says, "In less than another fifty years we may safely prophesy that all these suburbs will be engulfed in London, and that it will be in vain to look for historical associations in Highgate." The ground where Bacon died, and Marvell lived, where no doubt Milton sometimes visited Marvell; where of late years Coleridge philosophised, where the genial Leigh Hunt loved to walk, where Keats learned in its green lanes that

'A thing of beauty is a joy for ever;'

"and Shelley, the so-called atheist, who had more love to his neighbour in his soul than a thousand nominal Christians, who, under the 'Divine opal arch of heaven, learnt to denounce the despotisms of earth—which are

'Tyrants to the weak and cowards to the strong;'

"it is something to have seen all this as they 'saw it.' But if you wait a year even now you may not be able to do this.

Needless to say that the author of the "History of Priestcraft" is a man of large and liberal mind, and that you could not avoid discovering this as you walk with him arm-in-arm, that is to say with his book in your hand, through places consecrated by the memories of such men. He tells us two tales connected with Nonconformist history which we have not been told so completely before. One tale has to do with Highbury Barn:—

"One of the most singular societies which used to dine annually at this tavern for many years was one of Protestant Dissenters, who took the name of 'The Highbury Society.' On the day when a bill—called the Schism Bill—was to have been passed, which aimed at the privileges of all religious denominations not in conformity with the Established Church, Queen Anne died, and there was an end of it. To commemorate this fortunate event the society was formed, and used first to hold its meetings at Copenhagen House. So far back, however, as 1740, Highbury Barn was the place of their rendezvous, and their mode of proceeding there was in a style singularly simple and even juvenile. They used to meet in Moorfields at one o'clock, and walk on to Dettingen-bridge, where the house, called the Shepherd and Shepherdess, was afterwards built. Here they chanted the initials of their name on a post for the information of such as might follow. They then proceeded to Highbury, and to beguile the way, it was their custom in turn to bowl a ball of ivory at objects in their path."

Mr. Howitt goes on to tell how our venerable ancestors after dinner proceeded to play at hop-ball, and how this merry meeting came to an end about 1833. More's the pity! Another anecdote, this time connected with Islington, is of Milton's granddaughter and last descendant. It is as follows:—

"Mrs. Foster, granddaughter of Milton, kept a chandler's shop at Lower Holloway for some years, and died at Islington, May 9, 1754, in the sixty-eighth year of her age. In her the family of the author of 'Paradise Lost' became extinct. She had lived many years in indigence, and at last she sank under the weight of poverty and the infirmities of age. It does not appear that her grandfather's admirers took any notice of her until 1750, when on April 5 of that year, 'Comus' was represented at Drury Lane Theatre with a new prologue by Dr. Johnson, spoken by Garrick for her benefit, which produced her 180*l.* Dr. Johnson says she had so little acquaintance with diversion or gaiety that she did not know what was intended when a benefit was offered her. She knew little of her grandfather, and that little was not good. She told of his harshness to his daughters, and his refusal to have them taught to write; but, in opposition to other accounts, represented him as delicate though temperate in his diet."

This is the kind of talk in which Mr. Howitt indulges. He moralises also, as in this last anecdote, and the moralising, though true, is not very pleasant, for it is not pleasant to reflect that "this is a fine specimen of how nobility is

"acquired and rewarded in this country." But the author also gives some pictures of the remarkable scenes, and exquisitely engraved pictures they are. One of them is of a certain house in Highgate, and we fancy that, in the little group near we can discern the features of Mr. Howitt himself. We put down this charming work only regretting that the author has not extended its limits.

THE MAGAZINES.

Fraser has two papers this month dealing with ecclesiastical topics, and discussing them with a frankness, courage, and outspokenness, which we wish were more common. The subject of the first is, "What is a Bishop?" and though the writer admits that we have much to be thankful for when we compare the Episcopal Bench of to-day with that of former times, yet the only feeling with which he can regard these "reverend fathers in the House of Lords, beautiful in their lawn sleeves, like a flock of stainless birds, or a pure white cloud that moveth altogether if it move at all," is a mixture of compassion and respect. Very mercilessly does he deal with the pretensions to supernatural power set up on their behalf, and point out the inconsistency of these High-Churchmen who, while professing so much zeal for Christian work, interpose insuperable difficulties in its way by their Episcopal theories, and while "they think it a matter of paramount importance that they should be in some sense on good terms with the teachers of a semi-barbarous and wholly superstitious population, hold it to be quite impossible to make a single step towards their own brethren." Equally bold and uncompromising is the brief but most conclusive paper on the "Ethics of Disendowment," the author of which brushes away with strong and decided tones the multitude of fallacies that have grown up around the question. His argument rests on the fundamental distinction between "an irrevocable gift" and a conditional recompense, and, starting from this, he proceeds to contend that, as "religious endowments are provisions for the benefits of the donors, and not free gifts to the donees," the former must have, and in the case of the English legislature has, exercised the power to alter the conditions on which they are held, a power itself implying the right to withdraw them. That this view has been so much overlooked is owing, he thinks, to the fact "that the Church has been endowed in an outward form, which we are accustomed to associate with independent proprietorship, and not with official employment."

The *Coramille* completes "That Boy of Norcott's," a story which shows how much the author still retains of his freshness and vigour. Its incidents are not very probable, but some of its characters are drawn with great skill, and there is altogether about it an *élan* and spirit worthy of the writer's best days. We have the first chapters of a new story, "Put yourself in his place," whose opening scenes are laid in one of our great manufacturing towns, and which seems designed to represent some of the more striking features of its social life. "Railway Signalling" is the subject of an instructive paper which describes the details of an important and complicated system, and points out how much our engineers have done to guard against accidents. The difficult questions connected with the reorganisation of the "Civil Service" are discussed at some length by one who thoroughly understands the subject, and whose suggestions are weighty and well-considered.

The mildness of the political season has communicated itself even to *Blackwood*, who gives us a number without an attack on Mr. Gladstone. It must be confessed, however, that in the absence of a political article and of Cornelius O'Dowd's amusing gossip, the number is somewhat dull. Two or three of the papers are solid and useful, but there is a want of sparkle and life. The writer of the "Historical Sketches of the Reign of George II." gives us a full length portrait of "its novelist," Richardson, which is done with great fairness and discrimination. A paper on "New Zealand and its Gold-fields," contains a mass of useful information on one of those great colonies whose condition and prospects Englishmen ought to understand a great deal better than they do. The writer of "The Arts in the Household; or, Decorative Art applied to Domestic Uses," throws out some useful practical hints on points which seem never to enter into the consideration of the mass of householders, who, in the style and arrangement of their furniture, appear to aim at foolish rivalry, absurd deference to the law of fashion as laid down by interested tradespeople, or love of ostentatious display, and to be utterly indifferent to good taste, and ignorant apparently of the effect which a little artistic skill and judgment may produce at comparatively small cost.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* often excels in its shorter papers. That on "Morals of the Period" gives us some views of modern life which are not very flattering or satisfactory, but which certainly demand attention. Epictetus Eydel's account of the "First Night of the Session" is lively and entertaining. The rapid sketch of the losses sustained is well done, and pays a graceful tribute to those who have just disappeared from the political stage. The paper on "Quoting and Capping" is spirited and racy, and with some capital stories. Our only complaint is that so little space is given to a subject which is capable of such wide and varied illustration.

The *Contemporary Review* opens with a very able paper on the "two religions" that are to be found in the Church of England, that Church which rests on the basis of an Act of Uniformity. A more complete satire than that conveyed in the title and the pervading idea of the article we cannot easily imagine, but it is not the writer's desire certainly to exhibit it in that light. He feels, however, the scandal of the conflict of these "two religions" is causing, and the danger which threatens the Church, and gives himself to a careful examination of their respective claims. We cannot accept all his opinions, certainly not the dogmatic assertion that "no competent interpreter can doubt that baptism and regeneration are associated together in the Bible." But he has given a very lucid statement of the points of difference between the two schools, and argues very forcibly against the assumptions of the High Church theory, which, he maintains, undermine the foundations of Christianity itself. Another proof of the existence of these two religions is supplied in Professor Conington's able criticism on Mr. Cobb's "Kiss of Peace," so far as regards the teaching of the Catechism relative to the Eucharist. One of the most valuable articles in the number is Dr. Brady's most important contribution to the history of the Irish Church in the second part of his account of "Vice-regal Speeches and Episcopal Votes." If there are any who do not understand the feeling of the Irish against the Protestant ascendancy, or who believe that the existence of the Establishment has been only a "sentimental" grievance, they would do well to study these most instructive papers. Mr. Hunt's sketch of "Lord Bolingbroke," Miss Becker's article on the "Study of Science by Women," and Professor Hullah's suggestions as to the "Cultivation of the Speaking Voice," contribute to the value of a most excellent number of a review which is steadily rising in interest and influence.

The *Broadway* has a capital sketch of M. Emile Olivier, one of a series of the "Celebrities of the Corps Législatif," which supply a great deal of useful information to English readers. A paper on "Lancashire Literature" is good as far as it goes, but is too slight. The Essays on "Tact and Temper" by a woman, and on "On Ruskin as a Writer on Art" by W. M. Rossetti, are well written. There are, of course, two stories, one of them by Henry Kingsley.

Once a Week does not yet commence Victor Hugo's tale, but gives us part of a good story by Mr. Henry Kingsley to fill up the interval. Altogether it is conducted with great spirit. We have before us the current numbers of the *Literary Hour*, the *Sunday at Home*, the *Young Gentleman's Magazine*, *Cassell's Magazine*, the *Quiver*, *Golden Hours*, and *Happy Hours*, but must be content with a general testimony to the vigour with which they are sustained. The *Christian World Magazine* is also filling a very important niche in our periodical literature, and deserves high praise.

PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

The excavations at what is known as "Robinson's Arch," at the east wall of the Temple enclosure, were closed in August of last year, and reopened in November, since when further additions have been made of an important character to our knowledge of this portion of the work. It will be remembered by those who have followed the progress of Lieutenant Warren, that he discovered, by sinking a shaft of 55ft., the pier of the arch still *in situ*, and the *cousoirs* of the arch lying on a pavement. Under the pavement he found the stones of an older arch still, with a rock-cut canal, thirteen feet deep by three to four feet broad. He has since been investigating the course of this aqueduct. It is arched over, and at every few feet shafts were met with, apparently for lowering buckets, as they are quite similar to those found in the older portion of the aqueduct leading from Solomon's Pools. It is quite evident, therefore, that the aqueduct was for running water.

Its course is not straight, nor does it run down the lowest part of the valley; nor again is it parallel to the Haram Wall, but runs northward for fifty feet at an angle of ten deg. more westerly than the direction of the wall, when it opens into a rock-cut circular cistern about fourteen feet six inches in diameter; beyond this the passage continues ten feet more, when it branches off right and left; to right it opens into another rock-cut circular cistern, which is *half cut through* by the West Haram Wall; on the left it bends again to north, and is connected with a long arched passage about three feet to three feet six inches wide, running about 120 feet, so far as has yet been traced. To the south it opens into a circular cistern, and then turns off into a westerly direction, passing near the south-west angle of the wall.

The *presumptive* evidence afforded by this discovery is thus stated by Lieutenant Warren:—1. The winding rock-cut aqueduct was constructed. 2. The West Haram Wall was afterwards built, and a bridge built connecting the Haram Area with the western side of the valley. 3. The arch of the bridge fell. 4. Debris began to fill the valley, and a pavement was constructed about twenty feet above the top of the aqueduct; in order to obtain water readily, shafts were constructed at intervals from the pavement down to the aqueduct. 5. The arch fell, and now rests upon the pavement. 6. Debris began to fill up the valley over the fallen arch, the pier of which, standing out, was removed, all except the three lower courses. 7. Houses were built on a level of twenty feet above the pavement. 8. These houses fell, and debris accumulated to its present level of forty-five feet above the pavement.

Lieutenant Warren, in forwarding these facts and deductions, does not venture on any suggestion as to dates. One thing, however, is clear, that in penetrating to the rock he exhausts what is to be found. He mentions also several chambers, about sixteen feet by six, also cut in the rock, which he has found to the west of the aqueduct. The plans of all the works are to be seen at the Society's office, at 9, Pall-mall East.

Gleanings.

The Holborn Viaduct is to be opened to the public in June or July next.

It has been decided to lower the operative pitch to the French standard at Covent Garden.

There are two establishments in Maine for hatching fish artificially—one at Augusta and one at Alna.

At a sale of rare coins in Glasgow on Friday a Queen Anne farthing was sold for one guinea!

The Oxford and Cambridge boat race is fixed for Wednesday, March 17th.

It is asserted that the Duke of Cambridge and Mr. Cardwell desire to abolish the razor from the soldier's kit.

It was observed of a deceased lawyer, that he left but few effects; on which a female remarked that he had but few causes.

"Porter," asked an old lady of an Irish railway porter, "when does the nine o'clock train leave?" "Sixty minutes past eight, mum," was the reply.

A man who was shooting "for fun" in Colorado, recently shot an individual, who, he says, unfortunately popped his head round a corner and struck the bullet.

The *Salt Lake Daily Telegraph* invites strangers to visit Utah, eat strawberries, and adds:—"You need not have more than one wife if you don't want to. There's no compulsion about it."

A soldier being asked if he met with much hospitality while he was in Ireland, replied, that "he was in the hospital nearly all the time he was there."

An American paper says:—"Wanted, at this office, an editor who can please everybody. Also a foreman who can so arrange the paper as to allow every man's advertisement to head the column."

The owner of a velocipede at Southampton has summoned a collector of tolls because he was made to pay for his velocipede as a wheelbarrow. The case has not been decided.

PICKLES AND PRESERVES!—"We're in a pickle now," said a man in a crowd. "A regular jam," said another. "Heaven preserve us!" mourned an old lady.

Men do not steal now-a-days—they *peculate*. Or, if that is too strong a word, they put an *s* to it: they *speculate*. Men are not now employing all the skill of their minds to be dishonest—they are *financiering*!

The *Pioneer*, in publishing a telegram of English news received in India last month, remarks:—"The following item entitles the telegraphic department to our gratitude:—'Only elected green price apricot relinquished Scott favour of Hartington.'"

GASLIERS.—Everybody should be told that it is only a question of time as to the certain fall of his own gaseliers, the consequent escape of gas, and a very probable explosion, so long as the weights which hold up gaseliers are supported by brass chains. Brass chain is sure to decay by the action of the atmosphere, and the only wise remedy is to discard the use of brass chain altogether, and to substitute copper chain in the place of it.

MR. BRIGHT AT COURT.—A contemporary says:—"The supposition that the change recently announced in the Court dress has been made to meet Mr. Bright's case is incorrect; for Mr. Bright has received a special permission to have a Court dress made for himself, absolutely according to his own ideas. The chief distinction of the exceptional costume from the accredited Court suit will be the absence of the sword, which Mr. Bright regards with contempt as an article of modern dress."

ANOTHER CHANGE IN FASHIONS.—If the chirping of the French journalists may be relied on, the new fashion is to be remarkable for the shortness of the dress in front and its length of train behind. In front it is to be short as an apron; behind it is to be so long that we may see ladies take up the train and carry it on their arms. If the fashion itself is curious, the name for it is not less so, and will give rise in the course of the ensuing season to many lively remarks. In fact, the fashion is a repetition of what prevailed in the sad days of Louis XVI., and was then known as the *robe-queue-du-diable*. We really cannot say that we look for much comfort in social life if these devil-tails should prevail.—*Daily News*.

A GIANTESSE.—Among the passengers lately arrived from New York, is Miss Anna Swan, a native of Nova Scotia, but of Irish descent. Miss Swan is stated to be 8 ft. 1 in. in height, and stout in proportion, weighing about 400 lb. She is twenty-one years of age, prepossessing in appearance, has a cultivated mind and engaging manners. "Miss Swan," says a newspaper reporter, "quite looks her stature. Seated, she overtops all her own sex, and, standing, the tallest of males appears dwarfed by her side. Her figure is admirably proportioned to her height. Her face is oval; the eye is quick and intelligent, the nose straight and Roman, and the chin, of which there is a profuse expansion beneath, well turned. Her tone of voice is rather low and gentle, with somewhat of the American twang. Her hair, which was dressed in the modern fashion, is light brown, and in front,

fell in two thick curls on her neck. During our visit, we noticed that gentlemen only addressed questions to Miss Swan. The lady visitors retired into the distance as 'things apart,' and indeed it would require a female of the very strongest type of mind to measure herself by the side of the Nova Scotian wonder. Miss Swan has been 'on view' in the United States for three years. We believe it is not yet settled where she is to be publicly exhibited in this country."

PROPORTION OF JEWS AND GENTILES.—The subjoined table may assist the reader in forming an adequate idea of the relative proportion of Jews and Gentiles. In round numbers we reckon:—

Throughout the world	1 Jew in 1,500 inhabitants.
In Belgium	1 Jew in 3,000 "
In Greece	1 Jew in 900 "
In Britain	1 Jew in 700 "
In Italy	1 Jew in 700 "
In France	1 Jew in 500 "
In Prussia	1 Jew in 90 "
In Holland	1 Jew in 52 "
In Turkey	1 Jew in 53 "
In Austria	1 Jew in 32 "
In Algiers and N. Africa	1 Jew in 10 "
In Hamburg	1 Jew in 32 "
In Frankfurt	1 Jew in 17 "
In Amsterdam	1 Jew in 12 "
In Warsaw (about)	1 Jew in 3 "
In Jerusalem	1 Jew in 2 "

Jerusalem has about 9,000 Jews, Safed 3,000, Tiberias 1,500, Hebron 503, Joppa 200, &c., the total in the Holy Land amounting, as before stated, to between 15,000 and 16,000.—*Sunday Magazine*.

A NEW COMIC MEMBER.—The London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury* thus refers to the first appearance in the House of Commons of Mr. Delahanty, the new member for Waterford:—"This gentleman is a decided acquisition to the House, which has been sighing in vain for a comic Irishman ever since it lost poor Vincent Scully. He is worth a score of Readerns, and judging by present appearances he is not likely to let his talents rust from want of exercise. Hon. members stared in wonder for a moment or two on Tuesday night when Mr. Delahanty rose to ask leave to bring in his money bill for Ireland; but very speedily they discovered that there was something to enjoy both in the manner and the matter of the gentleman's speech, and they enjoyed it accordingly. The gravity with which he informed the House that Ireland was 'surrounded on all sides by the sea' was inimitable, and the same may be said of his brogue, of his manner of thrusting his hand through a head of hair that would send Truefitt into hysterics, of the cool and palpable way in which he nudged a fellow-countryman who, seated at his side, was engaged in prompting him with figures, and of the calm and easy deliberation with which he paused in his speech, fumbled for some minutes in his pockets, and finally produced a very large packet of lozenges, with which he refreshed himself under the very eye of the Speaker. The House, which 'loves a joke,' will be delighted to hear Mr. Delahanty again."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Judicious management at trying seasons is often a life's value, though it is impossible in this climate of changing temperature, rain and fog, to prevent ill-health altogether, yet its severity may be much mitigated, and its frequency may be incredibly diminished, by the early adoption of remedial measures. When hoarseness, cough, thick breathing, oppression, or weight at the breast, and the attending slight fever, indicate irritation of the throat and chest, Holloway's Ointment should be rubbed upon the skin covering these parts without delay, and his Pills should be taken in appropriate doses to promote its curative action, and to re-establish respiratory and circulatory harmony. No catarrhs or sore throats can resist these remedies.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

MAYS.—February 14, at Smethwick, the wife of the Rev. T. W. Mays, M.A., of a son.
RICKETT.—February 20, at Canonbury, the wife of J. Comp-ton Rickett, Esq., of a son.
BUTLER.—February 24, at Highland House, Camden-road, the wife of Isaac Butler, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HUBBARD-UNWIN.—February 17, at the Free Methodist chapel, Mount Tabor, Sheffield, by the Rev. J. Mather, of Lincoln, the Rev. W. Hubbard, to Eliza Coughy, second daughter of John Unwin, Esq., both of Sheffield.
JONES-BULLETT.—February 18, at the Independent chapel, Weedon, by the Rev. Thomas Adams, of Daventry, assisted by the Rev. T. G. Rose, of Long Buckby, and the Rev. T. M. Kiddle, of Coventry, the Rev. William Williams Jones, pastor of the Independent church, Weedon, to Sarah, third daughter of Robert Bullett, Esq.
HALFORD-POOLE.—February 18, at John-street Chapel, Bedford-row, London, by the Hon. and Rev. W. Baptist Noel, M.A., James, youngest son of the late Henry Halford, of Leicester, to Louisa, second daughter of James Poole, of Lloyd-square, London.
ROBERTSON-SHOVELLER.—February 20, at Walworth-road Chapel, by the Rev. W. Howieson, George, eldest son of Mr. Robertson, of the Old Kent-road, to Alice, daughter of Mr. Shoveller, of Newington-causeway.
GARLAND-SALTER.—February 22, at Union Chapel, Plymouth, by the Rev. C. B. Symes, B.A., William Garland, to Kate Elizabeth Cross, daughter of the late John Salter, of Verbeer, Cullompton.
STEPHENS-FISHER.—February 23, at the Independent chapel, Workop, by the Rev. John Stokes, Mr. John Stephens, of Eccleall Bierlow, to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. W. Fisher, Anston, near Workop.
THOMAS-RUCK.—February 25, at Stockwell Congrega-tional church, by Dr. David Thomas, S.T.D., and the Rev. Urijah Thomas, of Bristol, David Morgan Thomas, of Loughborough Park, and of the Inner Temple, barrister-at-law, to Alice, second daughter of Cornelius Ruck, of King William-street, City, and Brixton.
TUCKWELL-ARMSTRONG.—February 25, at the Independent chapel, Castle-street, Exeter, by the Rev. David Hewitt, assisted by the Rev. John Tuckwell, Appledore, Mr. Samuel Tuckwell, of the firm Tuckwell and Sons, Ex-eter, to Eliza Jane, only daughter of Mr. R. Armstrong, Ex-eter.
PATERSON-HAMILTON.—February 25, at the Independent chapel, Honley, by the Rev. J. W. Williams, Thomas, eldest son of the late Mr. Thomas Paterson, of Wakefield, to Hannah, only daughter of Mr. John Hamilton, of Honley,

WITHY-HODGSON.—February 25, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Mount-street, Manchester, George Withy, late of Bristol, to Emily, second daughter of John Hodgson, of Chorlton-upon-Medlock.

TAYLOR-DALE.—February 27, at Hyde road Methodist Free church, Ardwick, Manchester, by the Rev. J. Barker, Joseph, son of Mr. Joseph Taylor, to Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr. Thomas Dale, all of Manchester.

SCOWEN-WOOTTON.—February 27, at the Caledonian-road Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. Ebenezer Davies, Mr. John Scowen, mariner, to Susanah, youngest daughter of Mr. Samuel Wootton, of Tottenham-court-road.

DEATHS.

MURCH.—February 19, at Bath, Eleanor Murch, widow of the late Rev. William Harris Murch, D.D., of Stepney Col-lege, London, aged seventy-six.

CURLING.—February 20, at 13, Russell-road, Kensington, John Curling, Esq., third son of the late Jesse Curling, Esq., J.P.

ARMITAGE.—February 22, at Forebridge Hall, Stafford, in the fifty-first year of her age, Emma, daughter of the late Cyrus Armitage, of Manchester.

PAYNE.—February 23, Thomas Payne, Abingdon, late of St. Helen's Mills, aged seventy-eight.

PETO.—February 24, at Northtown, Maidenhead, Sophia, widow of the late W. Peto, Esq., aged eighty-six.

JOHNSTONE.—February 25, at 34, Belgrave-square, Sir John V. B. Johnstone, Bart., M.P., in his seventieth year.

SIDEBOTTOM.—February 25, at his residence, South Cliff, Reddish, near Stockport, James, eldest son of James Side-bottom, Esq., J.P., of Manchester. Also, on the 25th ult., Samuel Harold Watts, infant son of James Sidebottom, Esq., jun., and were interred in the Stockport Cemetery March 1. Friends will please accept this intimation.

MILLER.—February 25, at 70, Great Titchfield-street, W., after severe and protracted sufferings, borne with much patience, in the sixty-first year of her age, Eleanor, wife of Mr. George Miller, late of 23, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square.

WILLIAMS.—February 25, at her father's house, after a long illness, Anne, the beloved daughter of the Rev. James Williams, minister of Albany Chapel, Haverfordwest, Pem-broke-shire.

EDWARDS.—March 1, at Chard, Somerset, Mr. Ebenezer Edwards, aged sixty-one years.

JESSOP.—March 1, at the house of his son, in Hayton, the Rev. R. Jessop, late of Warrington, aged sixty-six years.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32 for the week ending Wednesday, Feb. 21.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued	£32,183,555
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities	£3,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	£17,183,555
	£32,183,555

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000
Reserve	£3,350,396
Public Deposits	£5,030,893
Other Deposits	£17,469,154
Seven Day and other Bills	£457,066
	£40,860,509

Feb. 25, 1869. Geo. Forster, Chief Cashier.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, London, Monday, March 1.
We have moderate supplies of wheat from our own coast, and from abroad. The trade has been very quiet, and sales in retail at the currencies of last week. Flour is without alteration in value and meets a slow sale. Malt and barley difficult to sell at a decline, and grinding quantities depressed by large arrivals, and rather cheaper. Beans and peas unaltered in value. We have liberal arrivals of oats, and the decline in value of other feeding articles tends to reduce prices, and a decline of 6d. per qr. is submitted to. We have few arrivals of cargoes. Wheat and barley are as dear as last week. Maize is lower.

CURRENT PRICES.	
WHEAT—	Per Qr.
Best and Kent	47 51
red, old	47 51
ditto new	47 51
White, old	47 51
ditto new	47 51
Foreign red	47 51
white	47 51
BARLEY—	Per Qr.
English malted	35 38
Chevalier	45 50
Distilling	41 43
Foreign	41 43
MALT—	Per Qr.
Pale	34 62
Chevalier	34 62
Brown	34 62
BEANS—	Per Qr.
Flora	37 38
Harrow	40 43
Small	37 38
Egyptian	37 38
PEAS—	Per Qr.
Grey	40 41
Maple	45 47
White	40 42
Boilers	40 42
Foreign, boilers	40 42
RYE—	Per Qr.
	40 42
OATS—	Per Qr.
English feed	27 33
potatoes	31 34
Scotch feed	27 33
potatoes	31 34
Irish black	23 26
white	23 26
Foreign feed	27 33
FLOUR—	Per Qr.
Town made	42 47
Country Marks	36 38
Norfolk & Suffolk	31 32

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, March 1.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 11,181 head. In the corresponding week in 1868 we received 1,136; in 1867, 11,236; in 1866, 10,153; and in 1865, 5,465. The restrictions compelling the slaughter of foreign sheep at the place of debarkation having been removed, large numbers were on sale in the market. Some serviceable animals were included in the supply, and for such full prices were realised; but the general supply of the stock was inferior. There was a large supply of foreign beasts, for which the trade was quiet, at barely previous quotations. From our own grazing districts the arrivals of stock, though limited, were rather larger than on Monday last. The trade was less active, and late rates were with difficulty realised. The top price for best Scots and crosses was 5s. 6d. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received about 920 Scots, &c.; from other parts of England, about 620 of various breeds; from Scotland, 250 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland about 90 oxen, &c. The number of sheep in the pens was small. There was a healthy inquiry for all breeds, at full currencies. Best Downs and half-breeds in the wool sold at 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. per 11bs., and out of the wool 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. A few lambs were on sale, at from 6s. 8d. to 7s. 4d. per 8lbs. The calf trade was steady at late quotations; and the demand for pigs was rather quiet, at late rates.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.	
Inf. coarse beasts	4 to 5 8
Second qu.	3 10 to 4 6
Prime large oxen	4 8 to 5 2
Prime Scots, &c.	5 4 to 5 6
Coarse inf. sheep	8 10 to 4 8
Second quality	4 8 to 5 6
Pr. coarse woolled	5 10 to 6 2
Prime Southdown	6 4 to 6 6
Lambs	0 0 to 0 0
Lge. coarse calves	4 8 to 5 2
Prime small	5 4 to 5 6
Large hogs	3 8 to 4 2
Neatam. porkers	4 10 to 5 2
Suckling calves	2s. to 2s. 6d.; and quarter-old store pigs, 2s. to 2s. 6d., each.

SMITHFIELD MEAT MARKET, Monday, March 1.

Moderate supplies of meat were on sale. Prime qualities were steady in value; otherwise, the demand was inactive. The imports into London last week consisted of 318 packages from Hamburg, 166 packages of mutton from Harlingen, and 6 packages from Rotterdam.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.	
Inf. mutton	3 4 to 3 8
Middling ditto	3 10 to 4 2
Prime large do.	4 4 to 4 6
Do. small do.	4 8 to 4 10
Large pork	3 2 to 3 10
Inf. mutton	3 4 to 3 8
Middling ditto	4 0 to 4 2
Prime ditto	4 10 to 5 2
Veal	4 6 to 5 0
Small pork	4 0 to 4 8

JOYNT-GARDEN MARKET.—London, Saturday, Feb. 27.—Of rough goods we find quite sufficient for all demands. In fruit there is a deficiency of good pears, and hothouse grapes are not near so much in excess of our requirements. French vegetables are arriving, consisting of lettuce, endive, radishes, artichokes, and asparagus. Flowers chiefly consist of orchids, primulas, cinerarias, mignonette, heaths, cyclamens, tulips, crocuses, snowdrops, calla, anemones, hyacinths, lily of the valley, deutzias, pelargoniums, fuchsias, wallflowers, &c.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Feb. 22.—A better feeling has prevailed in our market during the last week, and transactions in home growths have somewhat increased. The demand for foreign has also improved, resulting in a fair business, both in Continental and American hops, at prices which fully support last week's quotations. Baratarian reports are quite as favourable, the firmness in prices noticed last week having been confirmed. The Belgian market is very strong, the greater portion of the growth having been cleared off. New York advises to the 15th ult., report favourably of the market, which is gradually becoming firmer, owing to the small stock on offer occasioned by heavy exports. Mid and East Kent, 21. 10s., 21. 15s., to 21. 7s.; Weald of Kent, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Sussex, 21. 10s., to 21. 15s.; Farnham, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; County, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Baratarian, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Belgians, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Yearlings, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s. The import of foreign hops into London, last week, consisted of 332 bales from Antwerp, 16 Boulogne, 31 Bremen, 205 Calais, 123 Dunkirk, 111 Hamburg, 50 Ghent, 135 Rotterdam, and 14 bales from New York.

PROVISIONS, Monday, March 1.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 483 firkins butter and 3,344 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 21,293 casks, &c., butter, and 1,365 bales and 190 boxes bacon. In the Irish butter market there is no alteration of any kind to notice. Foreign butter in good demand, at improving rates for best qualities, but middling descriptions move slowly, though offered on lower terms. The bacon market ruled very firm, and the late advance was well established. Lard was in rather more request.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, March 1.—The supplies of potatoes are good, and more than equal to the demand. The inquiry has been limited, at drooping prices. The import into London last week consisted of 66 sacks, 263 bags, from Calais; 65 tons, 2,457 sacks, 531 baskets from Dunkirk; 1,431 bags, 314 tons, from Antwerp; 100 bags from Harlingen; 15 packages from Bremen; 234 sacks from Havre, and 157 packages from Roulogne. English Regents 60s. to 110s. per ton, Pinkas, 60s. to 120s., Scotch Regents 60s. to 120s. Hooks 60s. to 70s., French, 40s. to 70s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, March 1.—Fine English red cloverseed remains scarce; fine samples are held very high. Belgian samples are dear, and German tolerably high; but French qualities, not being good, are not held with much firmness. White cloverseed remains both steady and dear. Best Trefoils were more inquired for, and quite as high in price. White mustardseed was held for more money. Foreign laces were saleable at full prices, with a good sale. Choice Essex white mustardseed was very dear, being extremely scarce.

WOOL, Monday, March 1.—There is very little doing in the English wool market, pending the public sales of Colonial produce now going on, but prices show no change.

OIL, Monday, March 1.—Lined and rape oils have been firm. Cocoa-nut has been quiet, but palm has been steady. Turpentine and petroleum have been in limited request.

TALLOW, Monday, March 1.—The market is steady. Y.O. on the spot is selling at 45s. 3d. per cwt. Town Tallow, 44s. net cash.

COAL, Monday, March 1.—Market very heavy, at last day's rates. Wallsend Hettions, 17s.; Haswell, 17s.; Heston Lyons, 13s. 9d.; Frambridge, 14s. 3d.; Elliott, 13s. 9d.; Original Hartlepool, 17s.; S. Kellies, 16s. 3d.; H-ngh Hall, 16s. 3d.; Holywell Main, 15s.; Thorp 13s. 9d.; Hartley's, 14s. 6d.; Turnhall, 13s. 9d. Ships fresh arrived, 60; ships left from last day, 6—total, 77. Ships at sea, 50.

Advertisements.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVER-STOCK-HILL, N.W.

The 111TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL of this CHARITY will take place at the LONDON TAVERN on WEDNESDAY, March 10, when the Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR, M.P., will preside, supported by the Sheriff of London and Middlesex. The Committee will thankfully receive contributions to announce at the Dinner, and receive additional names of stewards. Ladies and gentlemen will dine together.

Office, 56, Ludgate-hill. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 37, Queen-square, Bloomsbury.

Beds from 1s. 6d. Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. 3d.

TO YOUNG GENTLEMEN or INVALIDS.

—APARTMENTS to be let, ready FURNISHED, in the healthy and picturesque village of Abergwill, within a mile and a-half of the town of Carmarthen, and within one minute's walk of the Railway Station. The celebrated Rivers Towy, Gwilli, Cothi, and others redundant with fish, are also within an easy distance. Apply to Rev. D. Cadyan Jones, Abergwill, Carmarthenshire.

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a SITUATION in any light capacity or place of trust. Has a knowledge of bookkeeping; abstrainer; present situa-tion eight years; willing to be useful; would give time or any reasonable agreement for a permanency; in interview if desired; good character.—Address, W. B., 11, St. John's-lane, Dags John, Canterbury.

CLEVEDON COLLEGE, NORTHAMPTON.

Twenty-four Candidates from this College have lately presented themselves at University Examinations, of whom twenty-one have been successful, twelve of the number standing in Honours.

LONDON UNIVERSITY (Matriculation Examination), January, 1869.

T. C. LEWIS, Second in Honours, carrying off Exhibition of £20 a year, tenable for two years.

S. F. HARRIS.

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS, December, 1868.

FIRST-CLASS HONOURS—

J. M. LIGHTWOOD, distinguished in English, Latin, Greek, Pure Mathematics, Mixed Mathematics, and gaining £10 Classical Scholarship, and £10 Mathematical Scholarship.

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F. WOOD, distinguished in Latin and German, and gaining Prize of £3.

G. OSWORN, distinguished in Latin, and gaining Prize of £1.

B. JEVONS, W. WESTON.

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A. WOOD.

THIRD-CLASS HONOURS—

A. HODON, distinguished in Pure Mathematics.

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At the Cambridge Examinations, the ratio of the total number of failures to the total number of Candidates was nearly 1 to 3; among the Candidates from Clevedon College the ratio was not quite 1 to 7.

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The above branches of education are taught exclusively by the masters assigned to them. The general English education is under the immediate direction of the Principals and a competent staff of Governesses.

References to parents of pupils, and others, if required.

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The above School was established in 1840, to give a practical commercial education, with Latin, Greek, French, Book-keeping, Commercial Correspondence, Drawing, and Music. This School has received a large share of patronage, for which Mr. MARSH desires to return his thanks. To meet the increasing demand for admission into the above establishment, New School Rooms, Six Class Rooms, Dining Hall, Lavatory, and Eighteen Dormitories, have been erected. Mr. MARSH is assisted by well-qualified English and French Masters. Prospectuses, with report of opening of the New School, and the Inaugural Address of the Rev. Charles Vince, of Birmingham, on application.

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In the University Local Examinations, the Ewart Institute, a School for the Upper Middle Class, beautifully situated near Newton Stuart, passes year by year, a much larger proportion of its pupils than any other school in Britain. This year, in the Senior Honorary Examination of Edinburgh University, the Young Gentlemen's School passes the 1st, 2nd, 5th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, 15th, &c., in Scotland; while the Young Ladies' School passes in honours the 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, &c., in Scotland.

There is no vacancy at present, but vacancies occurring at Midsummer next may be now engaged.

Terms moderate. References and prospectus on application.

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MR. FRANKLIN receives Pupils at his long-established School. His boys have the advantage of homelike arrangements and care. The teaching is quite of the first class. Several Pupils each year pass the University local examinations. References may be had to the Hon. Justice Mellor, and to numbers of other gentlemen whose sons have been educated by Mr. Franklin. Terms, Fifty and Sixty Guineas, according to age on entering.

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CURES (this week) of SEVERE COLDS and COUGHS, by DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.

From Mr. Tratlies, Jet Works, Statthorpe, Yorks, Feb. 22, 1869.

"I had been suffering for a considerable time with a most severe cold and cough, and being summoned on a jury, I was under considerable uneasiness how I could possibly attend. I took some Wafers, and, as if by charm, the cough ceased, and I am now entirely well."

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